**"مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧**

| | |
|---|---|
| المؤسسة المالكة | المكتبة البريطانية: أوراق خاصة وسجلات من مكتب الهند |
| المرجع | IOR/L/PS/12/3758 |
| التاريخ/ التواريخ | ٢٠ فبراير ١٩٣٧-٠٢ فبراير ١٩٤٦ (ميلادي) |
| لغة الكتابة | الإنجليزية في اللاتينية |
| الحجم والشكل | ملف واحد (٦٢٨ ورقة) |
| حق النشر |  |



**حول هذا السجلّ**

يحتوي هذا الملف على نسخ من ملخصات استخباراتية شهرية أعدتها الوكالة السياسية في الكويت.
الملخصات مقسمة إلى عدد من الأقسام الموضوعية المختلفة، ويتباين التكوين الدقيق قليلاً من شهر لآخر، لكنه عادة ما يتضمن مزيجًا من العناوين التالية:

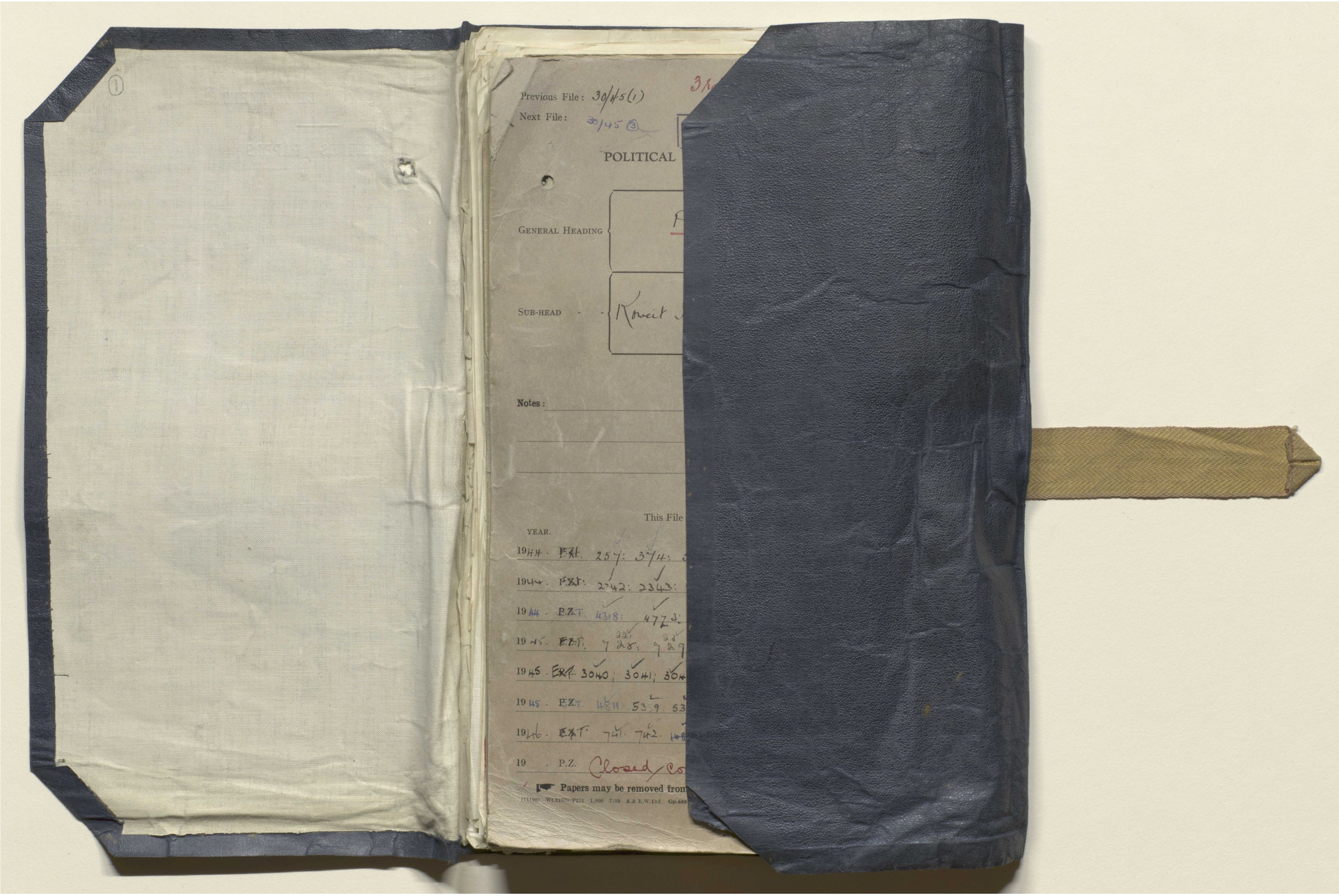
- تحركات مسؤولين بريطانيين
- الأسرة الحاكمة
- الزوّار

- الأخبار المحلية
- الأرصاد الجوية
- الشحن
- التبادل
- الشؤون الاجتماعية
- شركة نفط الكويت
- التهريب
- سلاح الجو الملكي
- البحرية الملكية
- المملكة العربية السعودية

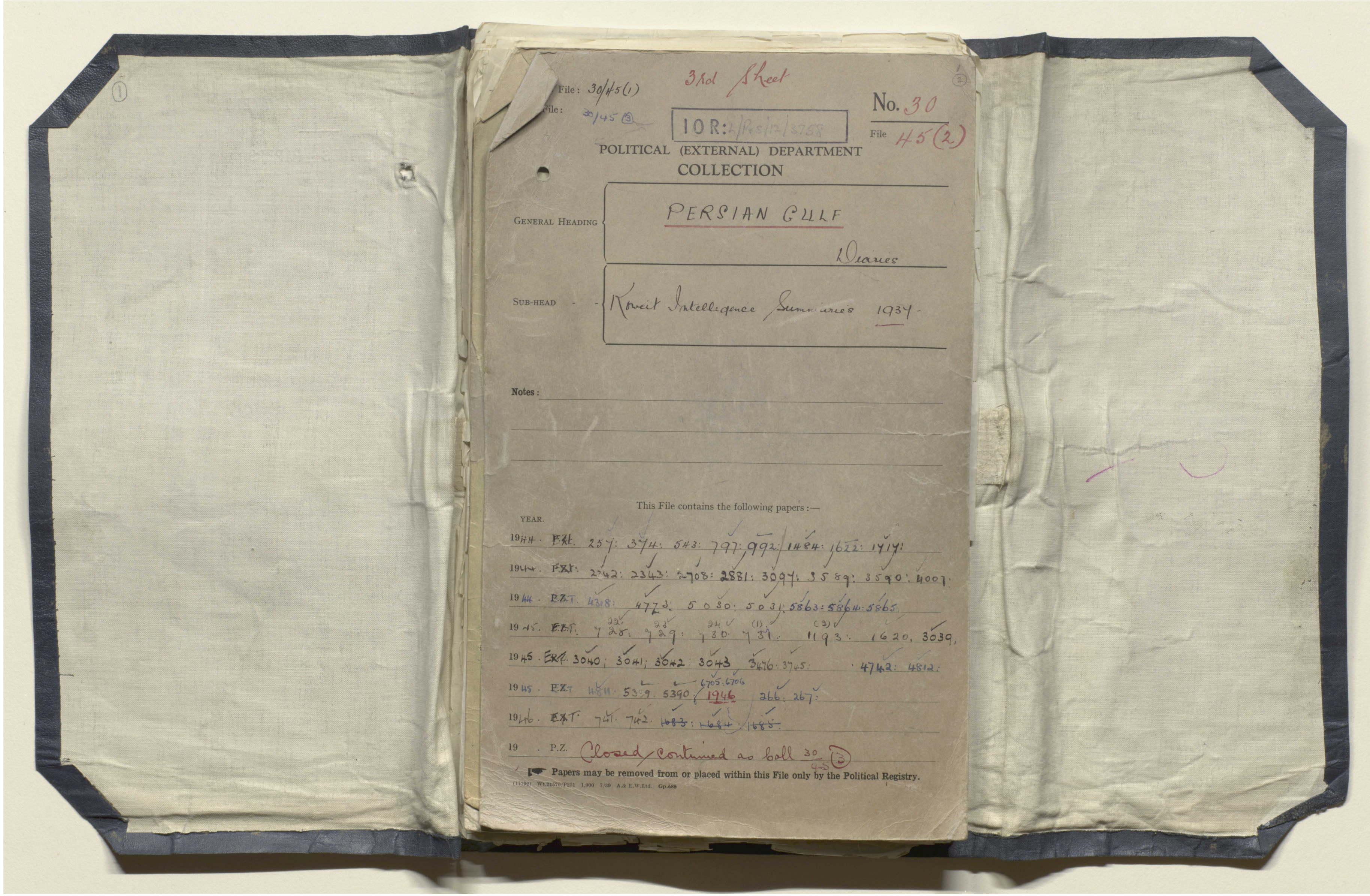
بالإضافة إلى ما ذكر أعلاه، تحتوي الملخصات على تقارير عن حوادث مُعينة وقت حدوثها، وكذلك تغطية متسقة لأحداث تتعلق بالحرب العالمية الثانية (بما في ذلك الاحتياطات تجاه الغارات الجوية، رد الفعل المحلي على التطورات والجهود الألمانية لنشر البروباجاندا). تشمل الملخصات أيضًا معلومات تتعلق بحركة المجلس في الكويت ورد الفعل المحلي تجاه الأحداث التي تقع في فلسطين.

يشتمل الملف على فاصل يتضمن قائمة مراجع المراسلات الواردة به حسب السنة. ويوجد هذا الفاصل في نهاية المراسلات.


POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.
PREVIOUS PAPERS


Previous File: 30/45(1)
Next File: 30/45 (3)
POLITICAL
General Heading
Sub-head
Notes:
This File
YEAR.
Papers may be removed from

# مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٢و] (٣/١٢٦٤)


File: 30/45(1)
File: 30/45(3)
3rd Sheet
IOR: L/PS/12/3758
No. 30
File 45(2)
POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT
COLLECTION
GENERAL HEADING: PERSIAN GULF Diaries
SUB-HEAD: Koweit Intelligence Summaries 1937-
Notes:

This File contains the following papers:—

YEAR.
1944. EXT. 257: 374: 543: 797; 992: 1484: 1622: 1717:
1944. EXT. 2242: 2343: 2708: 2881: 3097: 3589: 3590: 4007:
1944. EXT. 4318: 4773: 5030: 5031: 5863: 5864: 5865.
1945. EXT. 728: 729: 730 731: 1193: 1620, 3039,
1945. EXT. 3040; 3041; 3042 3043 3476: 3745: 4742: 4812:
1945. EXT. 4811: 5389. 5390. 6705: 6706 1946 266: 267:
1946. EXT. 741. 742. ~~1683~~: ~~1684~~: ~~1685~~:
19 . P.Z. Closed / continued as Coll 30/45(3)

Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.
(11192) Wt.21570/P251 1,000 7/39 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

③ 2

Previous File: 30/45 ①

Next File:

No. 30

File 45 ②

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT

COLLECTION

GENERAL HEADING { Persian Gulf.

Diaries.

SUB-HEAD - - { Koweit Intelligence Summaries, 1937 –

Notes:

This File contains the following papers:—

| YEAR. | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1937. | P.Z. | 1211 etc to 15/6/38. |
| 1938. | P.Z. | 4920. 5254. 5704. 6115 6336 6639. 6996 |
| 1938. | P.Z. | 7232. 7570. 7789. 8270. 8513. |
| 1939. | P.Z. | 282. 605. 951. 1229. 1744. 2021. 2367. |
| 1939. | P.Z. | 2876. 3047. 3355. 3695. 4108. 4338. 4632 |
| 1939. | P.Z. | 5246. 5826. 6718 7480. 7584. 7785. |
| 1940. | P.Z. | 23. 365. 752. 909. 1425. 1628. 1980. 2323 2502. |
| 1940. | P.Z. | 2843. 3213. 4128. 4530. 4521. 4645. 4854. 5348. 5457. |

☞ Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.

42048 500 11.35

3 (4)

Previous File: 30/45 (1)

Next File:

Second Sheet

No. 30

File 45 (2)

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT
COLLECTION.

GENERAL HEADING: Persian Gulf Diaries.

SUB-HEAD: Koweit Intelligence Summaries – 1937 –

Notes:

This File contains the following papers:—

| YEAR. | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1940. | P.Z. | 5981. 6368. 6764. 6765. |
| 1941. | P.Z. | 70. 846. 817. 2329. 2390. 2801: 3154. 3155: 4375: 4476: |
| 1941. | P.Z. Ext. | 5483: 5484: 5485: 6912: 6913: 6914: 7807: 7808: 8029: 8111: 8290. |
| 1942. | P.Z. Ext. | 753: 460: 461: 462: 1124: 1125: 1998: 1999: 1797: 2417: 2418: 2996: 3155: |
| 1942. | P.Z. Ext. | 2935: 3974: 3975: 4011: 4346: 4742: 4461: 4960: 5085: 5774: 5775: 6079: 6715: |
| 1942. | EXT: | 6885. 7076: 1943: 1577: 1578: 1930: 1931: 2744: 2745: 2999: 3227. |
| 1943. | EXT: | 4192: 4228: 4514: 4519: 4986/ 5365. 5588: 5641. 5922: |
| 1943. | Ext. | 6048: 6049: 6177 6275: 6466: 6697: 6886. |

Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.

(11192) Wt.21570/P251 1,000 7/39 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

(5)

Secret

| Notes for Registry. | | 1946. | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1). Distribution | Under Secretary... | 1/ii | [initials] | External Department. |
| 2). Extract para 405. | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ........ Committee | | | Ext 741/46. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 742/46. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summaries Nos 21 & 24 (Nov. 1st - 15th & Dec. 16th - 31st).

Summaries Nos 22 and 23 for the period 15th November to 15th December have already been received.

Paragraphs of interest in these summaries are:-

359. Floods due to heavy rain.

360 & 401. Ferries.

362. Markets dull.

36[illegible]. Haj.

402. Koweiti cars detained by Iraqi police at Zubair.

403. Kuwait Oil Company vehicle involved in fatal accident.

Margin notes: WDC 2/2. [illegible] 4/2 Sir [illegible]. 405 is of some interest. There must be a good many people in all parts of Persia who think that anything would be better than the present regime at Tehran. That complicates the situation greatly. Pakistan would be [illegible] which the [illegible] [illegible] WDC

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

P.T.O.

404. Winding up of Saudi Arabian Trade Agency.

M. Rodgers.
31/1.

For Information.

[initials]
3/1

SECRET.

No.24 of 1945.

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period 16th - 31st December, 1945.



MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS

396. Major M.P. O'C Tandy left for Bushire on the 22nd and returned on the 30th.

397. Reference paragraph 384 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.23 Major A.L. Greenway, Residency Surgeon left for Bushire on the 22nd.

NAVAL VISIT

398. H.M.S. "Shoreham" arrived here on the morning of the 31st. The Commander accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness, the same morning. His Highness returned the call at the Agency.

RULING FAMILY

399. Reference paragraph 385 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 23. His Highness and party returned from hawking on the 21st December.

400. Shaikh Abdulla al-Mubarak C.I.E., went out hawking on the 23rd and returned on the 29th.

LOCAL NEWS.

401. Fire broke out on the 27th in a carpenter's shop in the heart of the town. The police raised the alarm by firing some shots in the air. The fire was not brought under control until the shop was completely gutted. This is the second instance in the last two months vide paragraph 360 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.21. The town is still without any form of fire-fighting equipment.

402. It is said that two Kuwaiti cars (one of which belonged to the Kuwait - Zubair Transport Company) have been detained by the Iraqi Police at Zubair. These were suspected of smuggling silks and cotton piecegoods into Iraq. It is understood that their detention resulted from a disagreement among the Iraqi police on the distribution of the douceur.

403. Reference paragraph 377 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 22. Another Kuwait Oil Company vehicle was involved in a fatal accident. The driver knocked down a young girl who died instantaneously. The case has not been settled yet.

404. Ahmed Ubaid the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent remains busy winding up the agency, which, it is understood, will be closed (except for a clerk) when the delicate manoeuvre of balancing the accounts has been successfully concluded.

405. There are signs that some of the religious leaders of ~~Khorasan~~ Khuzistan wish that the British would support a movement for the independence of Khuzistan based on the Azerbaijan model. The idea is receiving no official encouragement.

406. SHIPPING

Three ships called at Kuwait during the fortnight:

| NAME OF VESSEL | NATIONALITY | Number of Packages discharged |
|---|---|---|
| "Samboston" | British | 8567 packages |
| "Oradell" | Panamanian | 6832 -do- |
| "Empire Ayr" | British | In port |

/KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.......

- 2-



KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

407. The foreign personnel employed by the Kuwait Oil Company on 31st December, 1945 amounted to 66 British, 11 Americans, 2 Frenchmen, and 1 White Russian. Besides these there were 92 British Indians, and 15 Portuguese Indians. The total of local labour including men employed by contractors was 1253.

408. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 67° |
| Minimum temperature | 46° |
| Maximum humidity | 100 % |
| Minimum humidity | 46 % |
| Rainfall | ·2 inches |

409. EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| x 1 Sovereign | Rs. 80 - 6 - 0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. 13 - 0 - 9 |
| 100 M.T. dollars | Rs.235 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.110 - 0 - 0 |

(Sd). M. P. O'C Tandy, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

LES.

SECRET

No.21 of 1945



Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period from 1st to 15th November, 1945.



MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS.

355. Commodore I.W. Whitehorn, R.N.(Retd.), Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived by H.M.S."Seabelle" on the 8th November He called on His Highness in the afternoon and His Highness returned the call the same day at the Agency. The Senior Naval Officer was entertained to a dinner at the Agency on the 8th and entertained His Highness, the Political Agent and others to lunch on the 9th. His Highness gave a dinner party the same evening.

RULING FAMILY

356. Reference paragraph 349 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 20. Shaikh Mohammed al Ahmed was discharged from the Maud Hospital in Basrah having made a surprisingly rapid recovery.

357. Reference paragraph 343 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 20. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim CIE, returned from Faileka on the 2nd November and repaired there on the 14th November.

358. Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak CIE, accompanied by Shaikhs Jabir al Ahmad and Subah al Ahmad went out hawking on the 6th November and returned on the 11th November.

LOCAL NEWS.

359. 2.3 inches of rain fell in the afternoon of the 1st November. All the low-lying areas in the Town were flooded and some houses gave way. No loss of life has been reported. The rain covered only the area to the east of Jahra-Safwan road, north of Kadhama Bay, and to the south did not extend more than 20 miles inland from the coasts. The beneficial affect on winter grazing has therefore been limited but epicures are cheerful at the brightened prospects of a bountiful harvest of truffles.

360. Fire broke out in the heart of the town on the 13th November completely gutting a few reed huts. By the energetic efforts of Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak and others the fire was localised and brought under control. Some people received slight burns.

361. Id al Adhha was observed on the 15th. His Highness and other members of the Ruling Family received the customary greetings of the people in the morning.

362. Markets remained dull during the period under review. The more far-sighted merchants are begining to realise that the flood of indiscriminate orders placed on exporters in the United Kingdom and United States of America is likely to cause a glut of consumer goods in the market and some of the "little men" who are still holding on to their stocks of cloth purchased at war prices are going to feel the wind very sharply and very soon.

363. His Highness has sanctioned the appointment of Khalid as-Zaid al Khalid, Abdul Hamid as Sare and Nusuf Yusuf an Nusuf as assistants to Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, in his capacity of Chief Justice The assumed office with effect from the 10th November. Local opinion seems doubtful as to whether the persons chosen are the most suitable.

HAJ.



364. The figure given in paragraph 334 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.19 of the number of Hajis was approximate; actually 387 people in all left for the Haj this year, 314 by camel and 73 by car. A party of 20 Persian pilgrims from Resht was turned back by the Saudi Representative owing to what he considered a defect in their passports. The lorry fare was Rs.800/-(return) per person exclusive of food. Cars were more expensive: three Hajis hired one for Rs.10,000/-. In addition to their fare, Hajis travelling by car have to pay Rs.1,200/- each in Saudi taxes.

/SAFAR 1944 - 45....

SECRET

No.21 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period from 1st to 15th November, 1945.

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS.

355. Commodore L.W. Whitehorn, R.N.(Retd.), Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived by H.M.S."Seabelle" on the 8th November He called on His Highness in the afternoon and His Highness returned the call the same day at the Agency. The Senior Naval Officer was entertained to a dinner at the Agency on the 8th and entertained His Highness, the Political Agent and others to lunch on the 9th. His Highness gave a dinner party the same evening.

RULING FAMILY

356. Reference paragraph 349 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 20. Shaikh Mohammed al Ahmad was discharged from the Maud Hospital in Basrah having made a surprisingly rapid recovery.

357. Reference paragraph 343 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 20. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim CIE, returned from Failaka on the 2nd November and repaired there on the 14th November.

358. Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak CIE, accompanied by Shaikhs Jabir al Ahmad and Subah al Ahmad went out hawking on the 6th November and returned on the 11th November.

LOCAL NEWS.

359. 2.3 inches of rain fell in the afternoon of the 1st November. All the low-lying areas in the Town were flooded and some houses gave way. No loss of life has been reported. The rain covered only the area to the east of Jahra-Safwan road, north of Kadhama Bay, and to the south did not extend more than 20 miles inland from the coasts. The beneficial affect on winter grazing has therefore been limited but epicures are cheerful at the brightened prospects of a bountiful harvest of truffles.

360. Fire broke out in the heart of the town on the 13th November completely gutting a few reed huts. By the energetic efforts of Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak and others the fire was localised and brought under control. Some people received slight burns.

361. Id al Adhha was observed on the 15th. His Highness and other members of the Ruling Family received the customary greetings of the people in the morning.

362. Markets remained dull during the period under review. The more far-sighted merchants are begining to realise that the flood of indiscriminate orders placed on exporters in the United Kingdom and United States of America is likely to cause a glut of consumer goods in the market and some of the "little men" who are still holding on to their stocks of cloth purchased at war prices are going to feel the wind very sharply and very soon.

363. His Highness ~~xx~~ has sanctioned the appointment of Khalid as-Zaid al Khalid, Abdul Hamid as Sare and Nusuf Yusuf an Nusuf as assistants to Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, in his capacity of Chief Justice The assumed office with effect from the 10th November. Local opinion seems doubtful as to whether the persons chosen are the most suitable.

HAJ.

364. The figure given in paragraph 334 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.19 of the number of Hajis was approximate; actually 387 people in all left for the Haj this year; 314 by camel and 73 by car. A party of 20 Persian pilgrims from Resht was turned back by the Saudi Representative owing to what he considered a defect in their passports. The lorry fare was Rs.800/-(return) per person exclusive of food. Cars were more expensive: three Hajis hired one for Rs.10,000/-. In addition to their fare, Hajis travelling by car have to pay Rs.1,200/- each in Saudi taxes.

/SAFAR 1344 - 45....

- 2 -

(9)

SAFAR 1944 - 45.

365. It is understood that 10 Kuwaiti booms are returning from India (8 from Calicut, 1 from Bombay and 1 from Karachi) loaded mostly with tamarind for Iraq.

SHIPPING.

366. Three ships called at Kuwait during the fortnight:-

| NAME OF VESSEL | NATIONALITY | AMOUNT OF CARGO DISCHARGED. |
|---|---|---|
| S.S."Empire Cato" | British | 14580 packages for Kuwait Oil Co |
| S.S."Arabistan" | -do- | 13731 packages for - do - |
| S.S."Seawall" | Panamanian | 7934 packages general cargo. |

METEOROLOGICAL

367. Maximum temperature 85° Minimum temperature 61°
Maximum humidity 100 % Minimum humidity 39 %
Rainfall 2.3 inches.

EXCHANGE

368. 1 £ sovereign Rs.80/4/- 1 Iraq Dinar Rs.13/1/6.
100 M.T. dollars Rs.235/- 100 Saudi Rials Rs.112/-

LES. Sd. M.P.O'C TANDY, Political Agent.

(10)
9

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 46. | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 14/1 | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | .......Committee | | | Ext 266/46 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 267/46. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Secret

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summaries Nos 22 & 23. (Nov 15th - Dec 15th).

The more interesting paragraphs in these Summaries are:-

374. Locusts.

375. Visit to Koweit of Chairman of Board of Directors of A.I.O.C.

387. Increase in price of cloth.

388 & 9. Smuggling.

(?). Bolgers. 14/1.

For information.

14/1.

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET
No.22 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the Period 15th to 30th November, 1945

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS
369. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., Political Resident, Persian Gulf, Bushire arrived on the 26th and left for Abadan by British Overseas Airways Corporation plane on the 29th November.
370. Major M.P. O'C Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basrah on the 30th November.

RULING FAMILY
371. His Highness, accompanied by his sons Jabir and Subah, went out hawking on the 17th and returned on the 22nd November.
372. Reference paragraph 357 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 21 Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., returned from Faileka on the 19th November.

LOCAL NEWS.
373. In the evening of the 27th November the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior K.C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, invested Mr. E.S. Matheson, Manager, Imperial Bank of Iran, Kuwait, with the Badge of a Member of the Order of the British Empire at the Agency. His Highness, six senior members of the Ruling Family, some members of the European Community, and some of the leading merchants attended.
374. A flying swarm of pink locusts covering an area of approximately 4 square miles arrived in the Jahra area on the 19th and left in a south-westerly direction on the 20th November.
375. Sir William Fraser, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company accompanied by Messrs. E.H.O. Elkington and J.M. Wilson, directors, arrived here in two aircraft on the 27th and left for Abadan in a B.O.A.C. "Airspeed" on the 29th November. The party lunched at the Agency on the 27th November. Sir William presented His Highness with a pair of guns at a dinner held at Mr. Scott's house on the 28th November.
376. .95 inches of rain fell on the night of the 29th - 30th November. It is learnt that it rained exceptionally heavily to the South-West in the region of Kabd where rain is most needed.
377. The Kuwait Oil Company's vehicles were involved in two accidents one fatal. The cases were satisfactorily settled in accordance with the procedure agreed upon between the Shaikh and the Company.
378. The Kuwait Qadhi, Hamada, who has been on a visit to Palestine for optical treatment (his one eye is almost entirely useless) has returned and resumed his duties. This has been a disappointment to many as he enjoys an outstanding reputation for corruption and there were strong rumours that His Highness was to replace him. He inspired the doggerel:

"Min sar al Qadhi Hamada
Sarat Al Kuwait samada"
(Since Hamada has been Qadhi Kuwait has become a dunghill).

The Judicial Committee (see paragraph 363) have, however, taken advantage of his absence to dismiss two of his sons who were employed in the Kuwait.

SHIPPING
379. Two ships called at Kuwait during the fortnight:-

| | Name of Vessel | Nationality | Cargo Discharged |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1) | S.S. Barjora (from Basrah) | British | Nil |
| 2) | S.S. Barala (from India) | British | 4765 packages general cargo |

METEOROLOGICAL
380.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 94° | Minimum temperature | 58° |
| Maximum humidity | 90 % | Minimum humidity | 25 % |
| Rainfall | 95 inches. | | |

EXCHANGE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Sovereign | Rs. 82/8/- | 1 Iraq dinar | Rs. 13/1/3. |
| 100 M.T.Dollars | Rs.240/- | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.108/- |



Signed M.P. O'C Tandy, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT

LES

SECRET
No.23 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency Kuwait for the period 1st - 15th December, 45

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS
382. Reference paragraph 370 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 2. Major M.P.O'C Tandy returned from Basrah on 1st December. He visited Basrah on the 13th returning on the 15th.
383. Mr. Godden, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Basrah arrived here on the 1st and returned on the 3rd.
384. Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., Residency Surgeon, Bushire arrived from Basrah on the 14th on tour.

RULING FAMILY
385. His Highness accompanied by Shaikh Abdulla al-Jabir and his two sons Jabir and Subah went out hawking on the 11th December.
386. Shaikh Abdulla al-Mubarak, C.I.E., went out hawking on the 4th and returned on the 8th December.

LOCAL NEWS
387. It is understood that the Kuwait Cloth Rationing Company have increased the price of cloth by 30% to make up the loss sustained by them on their previous sales.
388. On the night of the 1st/2nd December an Iraqi driver employed by the R.A.F. took 7 bags of sugar out of the town in a military lorry. This was reported to Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak who captured the smuggler with the goods at Shuwaikh.
389. One Abdur Rahman as Sayegh when detected recently in an attempt to sumggle 'araq out of Iraq thought to save himself the fine by telling the Iraqis, in a written statement, that it was for "Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and his relations". Unfortunately for him the news preceeded him and he was incarcerated immediately on arrival in Kuwait on the 5th December.
390. The Shaikh's Factor, Haji Abdul Karim Abul, died suddenly on the 14th December of, it is thought, heart failure. It is not yet known who will be appointed in his place to manage His Highness' properties.
391. The Muslim New Year was observed here on the 6th December. All Government and other offices remained closed.
392. Prices remained firm during the period under review. Great delight was caused by the news that imports from the United Kingdom and United States of America would in future be free of restrictions and the popular verdict was that "today the war has really ended".

SHIPPING

393. S.S. "Barala" arrived here from Basrah on the 6th, discharged 6390 bags of sugar and left the same day for Bushire.

METEOROLOGICAL

394.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 76° |
| Minimum temperature | 50° |
| Maximum humidity | 100 % |
| Minimum humidity | 53 % |
| Rainfall | nil. |

EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Sovereign | Rs. 78 - 8 - 0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. 13 - 1 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Dollars | Rs.235 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.112 - 8 - 0 |



Signed M.P.O'C Tandy, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

LES.

Secret

12
(13)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1945 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Extract 349 on 6705 | Under Secretary... | 21/xii | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 22 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext 6705/45

Ext 6706/45.

Subject: Koweit :- Intelligence Summaries Nos 19 & 20.

(October 1945).

Paragraphs of interest in these summaries are:-

326. Price of water raised by 20%

328. Sugar quota not shipped from India.

329 & 345. Prices.

340. Visit of British Council Representative to Koweit.

349. Second son of the Sheikh shot (not fatally) by Iraqi police, west of Zubair. He is alleged to have been smuggling.

351 Pearl catch poor.

M. Edgers 17/12.

19/xii

E & O Secretary.

see paragraphs 326-9, 366-7, 339-40, 344-5, 347 350-2 & 354.

17/xii

9/1

9/1

9/1

9/1

Seen Pol Cttee 15.1.46

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET.
No. 19 of 1945.

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the Period from 1st to 15th October, 1945.

VISITORS.
323. Commander Perry, United States Naval Reserve, arrived here by Anglo-Iranian Oil Company plane on the 8th and returned the same day to Abadan.

RULING FAMILY.
324. Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak, C.I.E., went on a hawking tour on the 10th and returned on the 12th.
325. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., went to Faileka on the 11th for a week's sojourn.

LOCAL NEWS.
326. The Kuwait Water Company have raised the price of water by 20% in a effort to balance their budget. It is alleged that the Company suffered a loss of Rs 593/9/- during the month of Shawal.
327. Reference paragraph 315 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 18. It is now learnt that the Saudi Government succeeded in obtaining 120 vehicles from the Army Authorities.
328. Considerable distress is being suffered owing to the sugar shortage caused by the fact that none of the current year's quota of sugar has yet been shipped from India.
329. There has been a further increase of about 25% in the prices of tea and textiles in the free market. Carpets are, however, 30 to 40% cheaper than they were a few months ago.
330. A Syrian lawyer who was employed for a year in Kuwait as a school teacher has published an Arabic book about it entitled "In the Country of Pearls". Apart from extravagant praise of his compatriots and depreciation of the work of the American Mission the book contains nothing remarkable.
331. A dhow laden with dates in which the major share belongs to Murshid al Usaimi, a Kuwaiti merchant in Dubai, is said to have been sunk near Karachi.
332. His Highness has sanctioned the appointment of Khalid az Zaid, Yusuf al Advani and Abdul Hameed as Sare to the Municipal Committee.
333. In the early morning of the 8th the body of Mr. A.G.A. Morgan a master welder employed by the Motherwell Bridge & Engineering Company under contract to the Kuwait Oil Company, was found in the street running past the side of his house. The cause of death was fracture of the first three cervical vertebrae of the spine and the available evidence indicates that he must have walked in his sleep (his bed was on the roof) and fallen over the low parapet into the street, dying almost instantaneously and without recovering consciousness. He was buried in the church compound the same evening.

HAJ.
334. The last batch of Hajis left Kuwait on the 6th making 400 in all. A very small number of persons may leave by car within the next three weeks.
335. The earlier batch reported in paragraph 317 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 18 was held up at the Kuwait-Saudi frontier post at Hafar. It is alleged that the Mudir in charge of the frontier post was away on an unauthorised holiday when the Hajis arrived and they, not wishing to lose a day, wired to Ibn Saud for permission to proceed. The Mudir returned on the following day and was incensed at the precipitate action taken by the Hajis in referring the matter to Ibn Saud and thereby revealing his absence from his post. It is understood that the Hajis have since been allowed to proceed.

336. THE SAFAR 1945-1946.
Reference paragraph 318 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 18. Twenty-three booms sailed from Kuwait for Basra to load dates during the period under review.

EXCHANGE.
337. 1 £ Gold Sovereign................Rs 77 - 0 - 0.
1 Iraqi Dinar....................Rs 13 - 1 - 0.
100 M.T. Dollars.................Rs 235 - 0 - 0.
100 Saudi Rials..................Rs 115 - 0 - 0.

14
(15)

-2-

METEOROLOGICAL.

338. Maximum temperature..................100°
Minimum " .................. 68°
Maximum humidity.................. 95%
Minimum " .................. 27%
Rainfall..........................Nil.

SHIPPING.

339. S.S. "Barala" arrived from India on the 4th October. She landed 1939 packages and sailed the same day for Basra.
340. S.S. "Tsinan" arrived from Basra on the 8th and left for India the same day.

M.P.O'C. Tandy. Major.

Political Agent,
Kuwait.

MB.

SECRET

No.20 of 1945.

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period 1st to 31st October, 1945.

VISITORS.

340. Mr. Highwood, of the British Council, Cairo, visited Kuwait on the 27th and returned to Basrah on the following day. He was entertained to a lunch by Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, Head of the Education Department. The Political Agent and notables were invited. He called on His Highness, visited most of the schools and met the Egyptian teachers.

341. An R.A.F. party including two Group-Captains arrived by Air on the 30th and left the same day after reconnoitering Kuwait. No previous notice of their arrival was given.

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS.

342. Major M.P.O'C Tandy, the Political Agent, left for Basrah on the 28th and returned on the 30th.

RULING FAMILY.

343. Reference paragraph No.325 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.19. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., returned from Faileka on the 19th and again went there on the 27th October.

LOCAL NEWS.

344. It is understood that the Government of Iraq have placed an embargo on the export of dates. Some of the Booms are staying on in Basrah on the off chance that the Iraqi Government may revise their orders. Failing that they will no doubt manage to secure cargoes from Persia.

345 Prices of general commodities remained firm during the period under review. Rents are still very high and recently a house consisting of four small rooms, unfurnished and without electric installations was let for Rs.100/- per mensem.

346. Mr.L.D. ~~Setee~~ Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait returned from leave on the 29th.

FINANCIAL SETBACK.

347. At the beginning of the period under review members of the merchant community received a telegram to the effect that "Bin Maki's horse has fallen down and all those who backed him have lost their money". This referred to the discovery by the Bombay Customs of a large number of sovereigns in Bin Maki's Boom who, it is understood, was allowed to leave after paying a fine of Rs.25,000/-

RASHID ALI GAILANI.

348. Colourful stories from Nejd of Rashid Ali's excape from Germany are going the rounds.

Posing as a Syrian oppressed by the Nazis, and armed with faked documents to that effect, he escaped from Berlin by car, obtaining petrol from the German Military in exchange for coffee. From a place in Southern Germany he was given a lift to Brussels by a United States Army Transport Command 'plane. Thence he made his way to Marseilles where he obtained a passage to Beirut on a French ship. There he was held up by the immigration authorities but succeeded in landing by persuading a female artist to forge an officials signature on a stolen landing permit. He and his party telegraphed Ibn Saud from Saudi Frontier and asked permission to proceed as a "press delegation" under assumed names. Arrived in Riadh, he put himself under Ibn Saud's protection in the traditional Arab manner.

SECRET

No.20 of 1945.

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period 1st to 31st October, 1945.

VISITORS.

340. Mr. Highwood, of the British Council, Cairo, visited Kuwait on the 27th and returned to Basrah on the following day. He was entertained to a lunch by Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, Head of the Education Department. The Political Agent and notables were invited. He called on His Highness, visited most of the schools and met the Egyptian teachers.

341. An R.A.F. party including two Group-Captains arrived by Air on the 30th and left the same day after reconnoitering Kuwait. No previous notice of their arrival was given.

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH OFFICIALS.

342. Major M.P.O'C Tandy, the Political Agent, left for Basrah on the 28th and returned on the 30th.

RULING FAMILY.

343. Reference paragraph No.325 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.19. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., returned from Failaka on the 19th and again went there on the 27th October.

LOCAL NEWS.

344. It is understood that the Government of Iraq have placed an embargo on the export of dates. Some of the Booms are staying on in Basrah on the off chance that the Iraqi Government may revise their orders. Failing that they will no doubt manage to secure cargoes from Persia.

345 Prices of general commodities remained firm during the period under review. Rents are still very high and recently a house consisting of four small rooms, unfurnished and without electric installations was let for Rs.100/- per mensem.

346. Mr.L.D. ~~Sotse~~ Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, Kuwait returned from leave on the 29th.

FINANCIAL SETBACK.

347. At the beginning of the period under review members of the merchant community received a telegram to the effect that "Bin Maki's horse has fallen down and all those who backed him have lost their money". This referred to the discovery by the Bombay Customs of a large number of sovereigns in Bin Maki's Boom who, it is understood, was allowed to leave after paying a fine of Rs.25,000/-

RASHID ALI GAILANI.

348. Colourful stories from Nejd of Rashid Ali's escape from Germany are going the rounds.

Posing as a Syrian oppressed by the Nazis, and armed with faked documents to that effect, he escaped from Berlin by car, obtaining petrol from the German Military in exchange for coffee. From a place in Southern Germany he was given a lift to Brussels by a United States Army Transport Command 'plane. Thence he made his way to Marseilles where he obtained a passage to Beirut on a French ship. There he was held up by the immigration authorities but succeeded in landing by persuading a female artist to forge an officials signature on a stolen landing permit. He and his party telegraphed Ibn Saud from Saudi frontier and asked permission to proceed as a "press delegation" under assumed names. Arrived in Riadh, he put himself under Ibn Saud's protection in the traditional Arab manner.

SHOOTING OF SHAIKH MOHAMMED BIN AHMED.

349. News was received on the 27th that Shaikh Mohammed (second son of His Highness) had been fired on by an Iraqi police car when driving a few miles to the West of Zubair. His life was for some time in danger from a bullet-wound in his throat, and his right thumb was shot off. The bullet which entered his throat missed all vital organs and rather surprisingly left via his mouth without touching his teeth. His Mutairi guide was killed and it is possible that the Mutair will exact in retribution a life or its equivalent in cash from the Shammar, to which tribe the policeman who fired the machine-gun belongs. His Highness received a telegram from the Mutassarif of Basrah expressing regret and the police personnel involved are in confinement pending an enquiry. It seems probable that Shaikh Mohammed will be accused of smuggling.

extract

THE SAFAR.

350. All the booms have left and it is said that some may be able to make two trips to and from India. Freights are believed to be 25-30 % ~~fh~~ higher than last year.

PEARLING.

351. The season officially closed on the 27th October. The catch was poor. One pearl is reported to have changed hands for Rs. 12,000/- and the purchaser to have been offered Rs.40,000/- for it. The following are present ruling prices.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Jewan | Rs. 200/- | per chaw |
| Shereen | Rs. 100/- | -do- |
| Golwa | Rs. 50/- | -do- |
| Badla | Rs. 15/- to Rs.20/- | -do- |
| Naeim | Rs. 60/- to Rs.65/- | -do- |

Neither the catch nor the prices have come up to expectations and most of the boats have lost money on the post-Ramadhan diving. Those who went out before Ramadhan on the other hand made money.

SHIPPING.

352. The following ships called at Kuwait during the fortnight:-

| NAME OF VESSEL | NATIONALITY | AMOUNT OF CARGO DISCHARGED. |
|---|---|---|
| S.S. "Barala" | British | Nil |
| * S.S. "Fort Camouson" | " | 10231 packages for Kuwait Oil Co. |
| S.S. "Poland Victory" | American | 2057 packages ~~General Merchand-~~ for Kuwait Oil Co.<br>187 packages Gen. Merchandise. |
| S.S. Empire Cato" | British | 13480 packages for Kuwait Oil Co |

* also 34 packages General Merchandise.

METEOROLOGICAL.

353.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 97. | Minimum temperature | 64. |
| Maximum ~~tem~~ Humidity | 100 % | Minimum Humidity | 25 % |
| Rainfall | nil. | | |

EXCHANGE.

354.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 £ Sovereign | Rs. 78 - 2 - 0 |
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 13 - 1 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Dollars | Rs. 240 - 0 -0. |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. 108 - 0 - 0 |

Signed M.P. O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agent, KUWAIT

LES

P.A. (18) 16/11

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 23/x | [illegible] | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 5389-90/45. |
| | Pol Committee | 24 | [illegible] | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT:

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary

September.

Starting P.Z.O. Dept (305, 315, 318)
for information
[illegible]
19/x.

7 xi
13/11
22/x
3/11
9/11
16/11

Pol Office 16.11.45

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No.18 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait for the period 16th to 30th September, 1945

VISITORS

310. Captain Harris, Cargo Superintendent of Messrs. Gray Mackenzie Basrah arrived on the 23rd and left on the 26th. His visit was in connection with the unloading of Kuwait Oil Company's cargoes.

311. Mr. Denbigh, Public Relations Officer, Basrah, accompanied by Mr. Porteous arrived on the 28th and returned on the 29th September.

RULING FAMILY

312. His Highness accompanied by two of his sons, Jabir and Subah, and Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir left for Failaka on the 29th and returned the same day. The party was entertained to lunch by Shaikh Abdulla as Salim who has been in Failaka since the 24th.

LOCAL NEWS

313. Reference paragraph 294. of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.17. The murderer of his sister has not been punished but has been allowed to go to Basrah to join a date dhow for the sailing season.

314. The Public Relations cinema van arrived here from Basrah on the 27th. Two shows were given in the town square in the evenings of 27th and 28th to large audiences. The Political Agent and some members of the British Community were also present.

315. The market is steady and the prices of tea, sugar and textiles have appreciated.

HAJ

317. The first camel caravan left Kuwait on the 28th September. The Hajis will follow in cars within four or five days and will join the caravan at Hafar whence they will complete the rest of the journey on camel back. About 200 Kuwaities intend to perform the pilgrimage this year. The hire of a camel for the return journey is from Rs.600 to Rs.700.

THE SAFAR 1945-1946

318. Reference paragraph 305 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.17. Thirty-eight booms sailed for Basrah to load dates for India during the period under review. Due to the extensive demand for dates from India and the lack of competition as a result of fewer steamship sailings the rate (per maund of 168 lbs) has risen from Rs.6/- to Rs.7/-

AMERICAN MISSION

319. Dr. and Mrs. Scudder of the Arabian American Mission returned from their long leave in America on the 24th September.

320. METEOROLOGICAL

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 103 | Minimum temperature | 72. |
| Maximum humidity | 63 % | Minimum humidity | 25 % |
| Rainfall | nil. | | |

321. EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 £ sovereign | Rs. 75 - 8 - 0 |
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 13 - 1 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Dollars | Rs.235 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.116 - 0 - 0 |

/SHIPPING...

SHIPPING

322. The following ships called at Kuwait during the fortnight:-

| NAME OF VESSEL | NATIONALITY | AMOUNT OF CARGO DISCHARGED |
|---|---|---|
| S.S. "Silverteak" | British | 1401 tons for Kuwait Oil Co. |
| S.S. "Queen Adelaide" | " | 11000 bags cement " |
| S.S. "Sampann" | " | 778 tons for " |
| S.S. "Momacswan" | American | 536 tons for Kuwait Oil Co. 28 packages for merchants |
| S.S. "Alfred J. Evans" | " | 400 tons for Kuwait Oil Co. 267 packages for merchants. |

M.P. O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

LES.

SECRET

NO.17 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait, for the period 1st to 15th September, 1945.



RULING FAMILY

288. Shaikh Salim al Hamood al Subah died at the age of 59 in Beyrouth on the 3rd September. He numbered both diabetes and tuberculosis among his ailments but the latter disease seems to have succeeded in carrying him off. Kuwait Government offices were closed for one day as a mark of tribute to the deceased and no flagstaffs were dressed on the 'Id.

289. Reference paragraph 254 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.14. Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak C.I.E., returned to Kuwait on the 6th September. His Highness gave him a public reception in the Security Department building. His travels have convinced him that there is no place like home.

290. Reference paragraph 267 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.15. Shaikh Abdullah as Salim C.I.E., and party returned to Kuwait on the 14th September. Except for their stays in Cairo and Damascus their tour was of the "whirlwind" variety and they did not spend more than 2 hours of a night in Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Lydda or Alexandria.

291. The Shaikhly tourists were gratified by the assistance given by the British Authorities (particularly in Palestine) throughout, but they felt keenly their non-possession of book passports.

292. One Abdullah al-Khalaf, a man of substance who runs the lorry service to Jahra, has threatened to emigrate to Nejd as a result of the extortions of Shaikh Subah an Nasir. His Highness however has persuaded him to stay by promising (not for the first time) to repress his irrepressible relative.

293. The latest amorous adventure of Hamud al Jabir, His Highness' half-brother, has caused wide-spread resentment, the victim being a virgin of tender years.

LOCAL NEWS.

294. A local Hasawiyah, her brother having discovered that she was no better than she ought to be, prudently absented herself from home. The brother, however, after three days search (in which he is said to have enlisted the aid of the police) brought her to his house and murdered her. We are waiting to see whether this puritanic zeal (which a few years ago would have met with general approval) will be punished - as the temper of the more progressive Kuwaities demands.

295. Although business is at standstill the tone of the market has improved somewhat. Both the sovereign and the Iraqi dinar have shown an upward tendency.

296. The police-station in the town presents an unusual appearance, being almost entirely devoid of police. These, finding their pay of Rs.45/- per mensem entirely inadequate, have drifted away. It is now proposed that they should do alternate tours of duty with the Customs police who, although drawing the same pay, find themselves - mysteriously - in circumstances of considerable affluence.

ID-AL-FITR

297. 'Id was observed in Kuwait on the 7th and 8th September. His Highness and the members of the Ruling family received the greetings of the public at the Town palace while the police who remain, dressed in new uniforms, went through the motions of directing the traffic. Neither the usual Ardha nor any public celebrations were held because of the death of Shaikh Salim.

298. The Political Agent paid the usual 'Id calls on the 1st and 2nd days of the 'Id.

/V.J.Celebrations.....

FILE COPY

SECRET

No.18 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait, for the period 1st to 15th September, 1945.



RULING FAMILY

288. Shaikh Salim al Hamood al Subah died at the age of 59 in Beyrouth on the 3rd September. He numbered both diabetes and tuberculosis among his ailments but the latter disease seems to have succeeded in carrying him off. Kuwait Government offices were closed for one day as a mark of tribute to the deceased and no flagstaffs were dressed on the 'Id.

289. Reference paragraph 254 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.14. Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak C.I.E., returned to Kuwait on the 6th September. His Highness gave him a public reception in the Security Department building. His travels have convinced him that there is no place like home.

290. Reference paragraph 267 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.15. Shaikh Abdullah as Salim C.I.E., and party returned to Kuwait on the 14th September. Except for their stays in Cairo and Damascus their tour was of the "whirlwind" variety and they did not spend more than 2 hours of a night in Jerusalem, Haifa, Tel Aviv, Lydda or Alexandria.

291. The Shaikhly tourists were gratified by the assistance given by the British Authorities (particularly in Palestine) throughout, but they felt keenly their non-possession of book passports.

292. One Abdullah al-Khalaf, a man of substance who runs the lorry service to Jahra, has threatened to emigrate to Nejd as a result of the extortions of Shaikh Subah an Nasir. His Highness however has persuaded him to stay by promising (not for the first time) to repress his irrepressible relative.

293. The latest amorous adventure of Hamud al Jabir, His Highness' half-brother, has caused wide-spread resentment, the victim being a virgin of tender years.

LOCAL NEWS.

294. A local Hasawiyah, her brother having discovered that she was no better than she ought to be, prudently absented herself from home. The brother, however, after three days search (in which he is said to have enlisted the aid of the police) brought her to his house and murdered her. We are waiting to see whether this puritanic zeal (which a few years ago would have met with general approval) will be punished - as the temper of the more progressive Kuwaities demands.

295. Although business is at standstill the tone of the market has improved somewhat. Both the sovereign and the Iraqi dinar have shown an upward tendency.

296. The police-station in the town presents an unusual appearance, being almost entirely devoid of police. These, finding their pay of Rs.45/- per mensem entirely inadequate, have drifted away. It is now proposed that they should do alternate tours of duty with the Customs police who, although drawing the same pay, find themselves - mysteriously - in circumstances of considerable affluence.

ID-AL-FITR

297. 'Id was observed in Kuwait on the 7th and 8th September. His Highness and the members of the Ruling family received the greetings of the public at the Town palace while the police who remain, dressed in new uniforms, went through the motions of directing the traffic. Neither the usual Ardha nor any public celebrations were held because of the death of Shaikh Salim.

298. The Political Agent paid the usual 'Id calls on the 1st and 2nd days of the 'Id.

/V.J.Celebrations.....

22

-2-

"VICTORY OVER JAPAN" CELEBRATIONS

299. V.J. Celebrations, which were deferred till the end of Ramadhan, were held from 8th September onwards. The British, British Indian, American, and French community were invited to a reception at the Agency on the evening of the 8th September.

300. From 9 to 11 a.m. on the 9th September the Political Agent received calls from upwards of 200 members of the Arab community.

301. On the 10th food was distributed to the poor at the Agency. Several hundred people secured a substantial meal of rice and mutton.

302. In the evening of the same day His Highness and a few ~~seni~~ senior members of the Kuwait Oil Company were invited to dinner at the Agency and on the following evening the remaining members of the Subah were invited to an Arab dinner. The leading merchants were entertained to dinner on the 12th.

303. The paucity of building material in Kuwait was brought into the limelight when a few windows of His Highness' town palace were relieved of their glass panes. The thief, one of the Shaikh's own slaves, excaped all punishment, but the unfortunate buyers were flogged and sent to gaol.

PEARLING SEASON

304. The second part of the pearling season officially commenced on the 11th September and a large fleet of country craft have put to sea. It is probable however, that the strong North-West wind which has been blowing since 8th September will severely curtail operations. It is further understood that dealing is at a standstill in Bombay (presumably as a result of fears that Japanese cultured pearls will soon be back in the market).

THE SAFAR 1945 - 1946

305. Seventy booms have already left Kuwait as follows:-

57 to Basrah to load dates;
10 to Qatif to load boiled dates;
3 to India in ballast.

Some sixty-nine booms have yet to sail.

The figures below show rates permaund of 168 lbs as compared with the last two years:

| To. | 1943 | 1944 | 1945. |
|---|---|---|---|
| India | Rs.3/- | Rs.3/- | Rs.6/- |
| Yemen | Rs.5/- | Rs.5/- | Rs.10/- |
| E.Africa | Rs.10/- | Rs.10/- | Rs.14/- |

The rise in freights is said to be due in part to an exceptionally heavy demand for dates (aided by the greater ease of internal rail transport) from India.

306. The increase in freights has caused another rise in the price of ships and two booms (of a total capacity of 5,500 baskets) have just changed hands for Rs.1,50,000 against a pre-war price of Rs.30 - 50,000.

307. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 115. |
| Minimum temperature | 81. |
| Maximum humidity | 85 % |
| Minimum humidity | 34 % |
| Rainfall | nil |

/Exchange...

-3-

308. EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 13 - 2 - 0 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | Rs. 74 - 8 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. dollars | Rs.230 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.118 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING

309. S.S. "Barjora" arrived from India on the 14th September and left the same day for Basrah. She landed 293 packages.

M.P. O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

LES.

-2-

"VICTORY OVER JAPAN" CELEBRATIONS

299. V.J. Celebrations, which were deferred till the end of Ramadhan, were held from 8th September onwards. The British, British Indian, American, and French community were invited to a reception at the Agency on the evening of the 8th September.

300. From 9 to 11 a.m. on the 9th September the Political Agent received calls from upwards of 200 members of the Arab community.

301. On the 10th food was distributed to the poor at the Agency. Several hundred people secured a substantial meal of rice and mutton.

302. In the evening of the same day His Highness and a few senior members of the Kuwait ...



-3-

308. EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 13 - 2 - 0 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | Rs. 74 - 8 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. dollars | Rs.230 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.118 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING

309. S.S. "Barjora" arrived from India on the 14th September and left the same day for Basrah. She landed 293 packages.

M.P. O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

L25.



The rise in freights is said to be due in part to an exceptionally heavy demand for dates (aided by the greater ease of internal rail transport) from India.

306. The increase in freights has caused another rise in the price of ships and two booms (of a total capacity of 5,500 baskets) have just changed hands for Rs.1,50,000 against a pre-war price of Rs.30 - 50,000.

307. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 115. |
| Minimum temperature | 81. |
| Maximum humidity | 85 |
| Minimum humidity | 34 |
| Rainfall | nil |

Exchange.....

(24)

SECRET

| Notes for Registry. | | 19.45 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 5/x | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 5 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext. 4811/45

Coll 30/45 (2)

Subject: KOWEIT—

Intelligence Summaries for month of August 1945

The following paragraphs in these summaries are of interest:-

267, 288: Movements of members of ruling family in the Levant.

281: VJ Celebrations.

283: Smuggling on Kuwait-Iraq border.

1/10

E & O Secretary 4/x

to see paras. 272, 273, 275, 276, 283, 286, 287.

1/10

7/10

12/10

10/10

10/x

10/10

Seen Pol Committee 12/10.

(25620) Wt.33611/P.141 5,000 10/43 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No.16 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait, for the period 16th to 31st August, 1945.

RULING FAMILY.

277. During the period under review the Shaikh and his relations remained in Kuwait because of Ramadhan.

278. Shaikhs Abdullah Mubarak and Abdullah Salim continue to gyrate about the Levant. The latter arrived in Egypt towards the end of the period under report and was described in the "Ahram" of the 19th August as 'His Highness the Amir Abdullah Salim...Heir apparent of Kuwait'.

LOCAL NEWS.

279. Reference paragraph 269 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.15. Major M.P.O'C Tandy returned from Shiraz by air at 7.a.m. on the 22nd August.

Major M.P. O'C Tandy left by car for Basrah on the 28th and returned on the 31st August.

280. Business is still at a standstill as a result of the Far Eastern victory.

"VICTORY OVER JAPAN" DAY.

281. The news of the Japanese capitulation caused pleasure and the Shaikh ordered holidays for all the Government departments for the 16th and 17th August. The market, except for the meat and fish markets, was completely closed. The Agency flagstaff, as well as the Shaikh's flagstaff were dressed on the two days. The American Arabian Mission held a Thanksgiving Service on the 16th August.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY LIMITED.

282. The Kuwait Oil Company suffered a "temporary bereavement" in the loss of one of its Directors, Mr. Jamieson, on receipt of a telegram addressed to His Highness from Major Holmes stating that "Jamson had passed away". Messages of condolence were sent to the bereaved family by His Highness and the Kuwait Oil Company and elucidated the information that Mr. Jamieson was well and alive but that one Mr. Janson had died.

SMUGGLING.

283. One Yusuf al-Marzuq, a Kuwaiti merchant is understood to have been arrested at the Kuwait - Iraq frontier by an Iraqi official of the Customs Department while attempting to smuggle cotton piece-goods, cigarette papers, etc., into Iraq. It is said that he purchased his own liberty and that of his goods by paying the Iraqi official a sum of ID.1,200/- (?).

LOCAL ADMINISTRATION.

284. The leading personalities of Jahra, a village with a population of about 2,000, submitted a petition to His Highness on the 29th August in which they complained against the high-handedness of Shaikh Subah an-Nasir in confiscating some of their goods. His Highness handed the petition to Shaikh Subah who will, no doubt, know how to deal with the petitioners.

/285. METEROLOGICAL ....

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٢٥ظ] (١٢٦٤/٥٠)

24
(26)

- 2 -



285. METEROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 113. |
| Minimum temperature | 82. |
| Maximum humidity | 63 % |
| Minimum humidity | 28 % |
| Rainfall | nil. |

286. EXCHANGE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 12 - 12 - 0 |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs. 70 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Dollars | Rs.230 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.117 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

287. S.S. "Barala" arrived here from Basrah on the 22nd August. She heig neither lifted nor discharged any cargo.

M.P. O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agency.

LES.

SECRET
No.15 of 1945

Intelligence Summary of the Political Agency, Kuwait, for the period 1st to 15th August, 1945.

VISITORS.

266. Reference paragraph 251 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.14. Commander C.E. Perry stayed at the Agency from 31st July to 2nd August and left for Abadan via Basrah on the latter date.

RULING FAMILY

267. Shaikh Abdulla as-Salim as-Subah, Shaikh Subah as-Salim, Shaikh Mohammad al-Jabir and Shaikh Abdulla al-Khalifah accompanied by Izzat Jaafar His Highness' Secretary, left for Basrah on the 2nd August. They propose to visit Syria and Egypt.

268. His Highness, accompanied by Shaikh Abdulla al-Jabir, Jabir al-Ahmad and Subah al-Ahmad, left for Faileka on the 5th August and returned on the 7th.

LOCAL NEWS.

269. Major M.P. O'C Tandy left for Shiraz by Anglo Iranian Oil Company plane on the 14th August.

270. The news of the atomic bomb caused almost as big a shock in Kuwait as in Hiroshima and it was widely beleived that a bomb containing 20,000 tons of explosive x had been dropped by the allies.

271. The declaration of war by Russia on Japan was warmly acclaimed by the public and the event was regarded as "twice blessed" since the date of the declaration coincided with the 1st of Ramadhan.

272. An officer and a sergeant of the ~~Royal Air Force~~ Special Investigation Branch came from Basrah on the 13th August to inspect various materials at present in the custody of the Public Security Department and suspected to have been stolen from Army stocks. The investigations revealed that the goods in question did not belong to the army and consequently the Nakhuda and the goods were released.

273. The news of the Japanese offer to surrender caused considerable commercial repercussions and there are no buyers for consumer goods.

274. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 114. |
| Minimum temperature | 84. |
| Maximum Humidity | 88 % |
| Minimum Humidity | 25 % |
| Rainfall | nil. |

275. EXCHANGE.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 12 - 9 - 0 |
| 1£ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs. 72 - 8 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver Dollars | Rs.237 - 8 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.117 - 8 - 0 |

SHIPPING

276. S.S. "TSINAN" arrived on the 3rd August and landed 2304 packages. She left for Basrah on the 4th.



M.P.O'C TANDY, Major,
Political Agent,
KUWAIT.

LES.

26
(28)

NOTES FOR REGISTRY.

| | 19 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|
| Under Secretary... | 26/ix | |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Pol. Committee | | |
| Under Secretary... | | |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext. 4742/45

Coll 30/45 (2)

SUBJECT: Koweit:

Intelligence Summary of 16-31 July

261. Exceptionally successful pearling season.

Seen Pol Committee 12/10

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

No.14 of 1945.



INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD 16th TO 31st July, 1945.



VISITORS.

249. Captain R.A.R. Arakat a Palestinian Arab attached to the Anti-Locust Mission arrived from Rumaihiyah on the 15th. He returned from Iraq on the 22nd and left the same day for Rumaihiyah.

250. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick arrived by plane on the 21st. He will act as General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company on Mr. Scott's departure to England. Mr. D.S.D. Fraser who has also arrived from the United Kingdom will act as Drilling Superintendent.

251. Commander Perry U.S. Naval Reserve arrived on the 28th. He has closed down the United States Naval Observer's Office at Basrah and is staying at Magwa until the State Department finds means to compel the Anglo Iranian Oil Company to place accommodation at his disposal in Abadan. The period of his stay appears to be indefinite.

RULING FAMILY

252. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim C.I.E., left for Faileka on the 16th and returned on the 20th.

253. His Highness left for Faileka on the 20th and returned on the same day.

254. Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak C.I.E., left for Basrah on the 31st. He is proceeding to Iraq, Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Transjordan.

LOCAL NEWS.

255. Major M.P. O'C Tandy left on a tour to Adhbai'ya by car on the 19th and thence to Kubbar by launch and returned on the 20th. He again made a tour to Shuaiba by car on the 26th and thence to Um al Maradim and Kubbar by launch, returning on the 27th.

256. The black-market prices of piece-goods rose very suddenly on the 16th as follows:-

Japanese Bafta from Rs.100/- to Rs.125/- per bolt.
Grey Sheeting from Rs.60/- to Rs.82/- per bolt.
Cheet from Rs.35/- to Rs.43/- per bolt.

These prices have been fairly well maintained.

257. Rents have continued to rise. His Highness is convinced that no action which the Kuwait Government could take to halt the rise would be effective. (It is not unlikely that the wish is father to the conviction because the As-Subah are the largest land-owners in Kuwait). A story in point. An Indian tailor who has returned to work here after some years absence was asked by Shaikh Abdulla Salim why he did not rent his old shop from him. On the tailor's replying that the present tenant was unwilling to sub-let Shaikh Abdulla Salim told him that he was at liberty to outbid him, whereupon the rent was bidden up in competition from Rs.40/- to Rs.90/- per mensem. Abdulla Salim went home Rs.50/- a month richer and the tailor is still looking for a shop.



259. The success of the Labour Party caused surprise and was, on the whole, regretted. Mr. Churchill has become a

/live figure...

live figure in the eyes of most educated Arabs and is deeply respected for the qualities of leadership which he has shown. The names of his opponents on the other hand mean nothing locally and no one knows what to expect from them. The Shaikhs and more intelligent Kuwaitis see in the election results another proof of the strength and resilence of Democracy as opposed to the influence of an individual and his followers, and applaud the power of a democratic system to reflect the public will.

260. A general exodus of those who can afford the journey to a cooler climate is taking place in anticipation of Ramadhan. His Highness is preparing to immure himself in the rooms which the Kuwait Oil Company have air-conditioned in his Dasman palace, and which, it is understood, would be much cooler if the absence of interior lighting and glass windows did not make it necessary to leave the doors open. A dress rehearsal involving a trial day's fasting has passed off successfully.

261. The pearl-dive is reported to be meeting with un-expected and quite exceptional success. Pearls are plentiful and of good quality, and prices have nearly doubled since last year. Many operatives who did not think it worth while going out are regretting their inertion and preparing for full-scale high-pressure effort immediately after the 'Id. The 75 boats (including only 7 large ones) which have already been out are now on their way back for Ramadhan.

METEOROLOGICAL.

262. Two days of phenomenal humidity and heat (stated by the Shaikh to be the worst he can remember) were followed on the night of the 30th/31st by a series of violent thunder storms (wind velocity 54 m.p.h.) and .76" of rain. Cars were bogged on the road to Al-qusoor and large areas are temporarily under standing water. Cysterns and wells are full and the fresh-water situation has been greatly eased. Rain in July is said to be unprecedented here.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 112. |
| Minimum temperature | 73. |
| Maximum Humidity | 100 % |
| Minimum Humidity | 49 % |
| Rainfall | .76" |

263. EXCHANGE.

| | |
|---|---|
| Iraq Dinar | Rs. 12-7-6 |
| 1 £ gold Sovereign | Rs. 73-12-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver Dollar | Rs.240-0 -0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | Rs.120-0 -0 |

SHIPPING

264. S.S. "Afghanistan" arrived from Bahrain on the 28th and left on the 30th for Basrah. She landed 6134 packages, mostly for the Kuwait Oil Company.

265. S.S. "Barjora" arrived from Basrah on the 30th and left for India on the same day. She landed 172 packages.

M.R. O'Conor
Major,
Political Agent, KUWAIT.

---

Paragraph 258 omitted earlier in Summary.

Food prices, particularly those of fish and vegetables, have continued to rise and the outlook is bad in view of the impending resumption of the Oil Company's activities. A complete collapse of the wage-structure is not impossible.

(31)

Secret

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1945 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 9/8 | [illegible] | |
| P.A. | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 10 | W | EXT 3745/45. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 12 (June 15th - 30th)

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

220. Presentation of a car to the Sheikh by the Koweit Oil Company.

224. Cloth rationing.

226. Refusal by Sheikh of offer by Ibn Saud of trucks released by M.E.S.C. for Saudi Arabia.

228. Demand for gold in Transjordan & Syria.

229. Sea traffic by dhow

(?) Rodgers 1/8

E&O Secretary.
to see paragraphs 224, 226, & 228-231. [illegible] 2/8

Seen Pol. Committee 17/8.

O.M.(e) 8/8.

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٣١ظ] (٦٢/١٢٦٤)

SECRET

No. 12 of 1945.



KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD 15TH TO 30TH JUNE, 1945

VISITORS.

209. Mr. W. Haig, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, left for England via Basrah on the 18th.

210. Mr. D.A. Denbigh, Assistant Public Relations Officer, Basrah, arrived with a cinema van on the 23rd and left on the 25th. He gave two shows to the public.

211. Majors Womach, Wright and Mead, with three British Other Ranks, one Indian Officer and several Indian Other Ranks arrived on the 23rd and left on the 25th.

212. Wing Commander Walker and Flight Lieutenant Woolfe arrived on the 25th and left for Basrah on the 26th.

213. Mr. C.F. Warr, Inspector of the Imperial Bank of Iran, arrived here on inspection on the 28th.

214. Lieutenant Ajaib Singh, R.I.A.S.C., arrived with Royal Air Force petrol on the 27th and left for Shaibah the next day.

RULING FAMILY.

215. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Failachah Island on the 18th and returned on the 22nd.

216. His Highness returned to his Dasman Palace on the 20th.

217. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., left on the 21st on a tour of the hinterland and returned on the 22nd.

TRIBAL SHAIKHS.

218. Shaikh Nayef bin Hamood, Shaikh of the Dhafiri tribe, called on the Political Agent on the 24th.

LOCAL NEWS.

219. On the night of the 14th one Yousuf Marzook, who had the temerity to purchase the affections of the mistress of Zaid al Khalid, a notorious rake, was severely beaten by the latter with the assistance of Shaikh Du'aij as Salman As-Subah, both of the assailants being considerably emboldened by arag. On the victim's protesting against this violation of the principle of free trade, Zaid al Khalid was flung into prison and Du'aij narrowly excaped a public flogging. Instead, he had to regale Shaikhs Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., and Abdullah Ahmed to dinner on the 20th and, having made the correct approach to these influential gentlemen - through their stomachs - was successful in getting his friend released from gaol.

220. During the period under report the Kuwait Oil Company presented a 1942 Model Chrysler to His Highness on behalf of the Eastern Gulf Oil Company. It is an unsuitable car for Arabia because the doors, windows, etc., open and close by electricity with no alternative method of operation in the event of the battery proving defective. Similarly, as it has a fluid fly-wheel and no starting handle, there is not method of starting the engine if the battery is not strong enough to turn the self-starter.

221. Reference paragraph No.198 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.11 of 1945. Major M.P. O'C Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait, returned from his tour on the 19th.



/Sulaiman......

31 (33)

- 2 -

222. Sulaiman Khalifa as Shaheen, Director of the Kuwait Water Supply Company, has resigned because one of the members of the Ruling Family insulted him. He was succeeded by Abdullah al A'su'si, who has also been appointed Secretary of the Municipal Committee. Paragraph No.201 ~~of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.11~~ of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.11 of 1945 refers.

223. There was strong shamal on the 20th and a Kuwait country craft was battered against the break-water wall and sank. The cargo was salvaged after being in the water for a couple of hours.

224. The Kuwait Cloth Rationing Committee have issued the ration of cloth for the next six months. It is 5 yards per head and the prices average about half of those charged for the ration issued 6 months ago.

225. It is strongly rumoured that Lord Wavell, on his visit to Riadh, promised His Majesty King Ibn Saud 100,000 bags of Indian rice.

Ext 3043/45

226. Reference paragraph No.190 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.10 of 1945. His Highness the Shaikh informed the Political Agent that His Majesty King Ibn Saud had offered him 4 of the trucks as a present. He refused, as he did not wish to countenance the implication that he was less generously dealt with by His Majesty's Government than Ibn Saud.

METEOROLOGICAL.

227.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 110 |
| Minimum temperature | 80 |
| Maximum humidity | 80 % |
| Minimum humidity | 13 % |
| Rainfall | Nil |

EXCHANGE.

228.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 12 - 7 - 6 |
| 1 £(Gold Sovereign) | Rs- 69 - 6 - 0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver Dollars | Rs. 246 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. 116 - 0 - 0 |

Gold is said to be in demand from Amman in Transjordan as well as from Syria and the price would be higher but for the plentiful supply.

THE "SAFAR" 1944 - 1945.

229. 144 dhows are said to have left Kuwait for Gulf Ports, India and Africa (nine dhows) in the autumn of 1944. All, except 25 which were in ballast carried dates, and a score or more boats did not sail as prospects were uninviting. Of these 76 have now returned, 8 are reported to have sunk and 9 to have been caught in Bombay and Malabar by the monsoon. Six returned in ballast as they could not get cargoes in India, but it is believed that they and some others worked between Indian ports under charter to the Government. The average sailor's earnings are reported to be only Rs.250/- as against Rs.500/- last year.

SHIPPING.

230. S.S. PENTRIGE HILL arrived on the 17th and left for Basrah on the 18th. She landed 2,000 bags of pyrites 1,550 bags of Union Pentonite, 2 cases of stationery and 1 case of electric lamps for the Kuwait Oil Company.

231. S.S. WOSANG arrived on the 27th and left for Basrah on the same day. She discharged 552 packages.

The 2nd July, 1945

Sd. M.P. de Tandy.
Political Agent,
Kuwait.

Secret

32

(34)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1945 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30/45 (2) | Under Secretary... | 28 | [initials] | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 3. 8 | [initials] | Ext 3476/45. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | P.A. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 11 (June 1st – 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

199. Possibility that most of the Egyptian teachers will not renew their contracts.

202. Koweit Water Company: need for motor boats to tow becalmed booms.

204. Supply Department ordered to control prices of commodities imported from the U.K. & the U.S.A.

205. Departure of I.W.T. personnel; crated barges still at Shuwaikh.

E&O Secretary [initials] 31/7 ...

M. Odgers. 25/7

b see paragraphs 204 & 207-8. [initials] 29/7

[initials] 7/8

[initials] 13/8

[initials] 14/8

Seen Pol. Committee 13/8/45

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 11 of 1945.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH JUNE, 1945.

VISITORS.

195. Colonel Sargon, Adviser to the Iraq Police, Basrah, arrived on the 2nd to discuss the question of Iraqi incursions into Kuwait territory. He left for Basrah the next day. During his stay he called on His Highness and Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.

196. Mr. E. S. Matheson arrived from Basrah on the 10th and he will take over as Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Kuwait, from Mr. R. W. Haig, who will proceed on leave to England.

RULING FAMILY.

197. Shaikh Jabir al Abdullah As-Subah returned from Cairo, where he had been at school, on the 3rd for the summer holidays.

LOCAL NEWS.

198. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy left for Failachah Island on tour on the 31st May and returned on the 1st June. He left for Basrah by launch on the 15th.

199. The schools were closed for summer vacation on the 9th. The first batch of Egyptian teachers left for Egypt on the 8th and the second batch left on the 15th. It is believed that most of the teachers will not renew their contracts as they are of the opinion that they are being underpaid.

200. Fahad al Askar of Kuwait, the winner of the 2nd prize in the Persian Gulf B. B. C. Arabic Poetry Competition was given his prize of Rs 66.4.0 by the Political Agent on the 6th.

201. A Sa'udi subject, Bin Fauzan, said to be garage manager to the King has complained to His Highness against Abdullah Uthman, Secretary of the Kuwait Municipality, and an investigation of the accounts revealed a shortage in the cash of Rs 17,000. The matter is not without political significance as His Highness has been personally discharging the duties of chairman of the Municipality with Abdullah Uthman's assistance since the former's half-brother Hamud al Jabir, the last chairman, misappropriated Rs 70,000 in 1943.

202. The Kuwait Water Company have raised Rs 300,000 capital during the last quarter for the construction and purchase of new water boats. Of this sum, Rs 100,000 has been subscribed by the Revenue Department of the Kuwait Government and Rs 200,000 has been collected from property owners by the compulsory sale to them of Rs 500 to Rs 6,000 worth of the company's stock per head. The share holders are far from pleased as it is understood that no accounts are published or even kept by the company. The company have, however, purchased two booms and built two more, while a fifth has been built by Haji Ahmed al Ghallaf for charter to the company. Two more booms are now being laid down and should be ready by the critical period in August. However, many boats are built it is still possible for a calm to immobilise them all and produce a water crisis. The company really require two motor-boats to tow in becalmed booms but engines have hitherto proved unprocurable.

203. A public holiday was proclaimed on the 14th by His Highness in honour of His Majesty the King's birthday.

/ 204.

204. The Supply Department have been ordered by His Highness, at the insistence of the Political Agent, to control the prices of commodities imported from the United Kingdom and the United States of America which have hitherto been sold at upwards of 100 % profit.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

205. Lieutenant Lamb and the remaining Inland Water Transport personnel finally left Kuwait during the period under report. Their crated barges are, however, still lying at Shuwaikh.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 206. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature | 111 |
| | Minimum temperature | 67 |
| | Maximum humidity | 79 % |
| | Minimum humidity | 20 % |
| | Rainfall | Nil |

EXCHANGE.

| 207. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | I Iraq Dinar | Rs | 12 - 11 - 6 |
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs | 62 - 10 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver Dollars | Rs | 224 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs | 120 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

208. The S. S. Barala arrived here from Basrah on the 11th and left for India on the same day.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent,
Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 15th June, 1945.

ADDENDUM TO KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No. 11.

Please insert after paragraph 204, as paragraph 204A.

Messrs Saleh Jamal and Abdullah Mullah are said to be experiencing trouble with one of their nakhodas called Bin Hashim who has retained for himself 500 out of the 7,000 sovereigns he recently smuggled out of India for them. The story is unconfirmed.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent,
Kuwait.

- 2 -

204. The Supply Department have been ordered by His Highness, at the insistence of the Political Agent, to control the prices of commodities imported from the United Kingdom and the United States of America which have hitherto been sold at upwards of 100 % profit.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

205. Lieutenant Lamb and the remaining Inland Water Transport personnel finally left Kuwait during the period under report. Their crated barges are, however, still lying at Shuwaikh.

METEOROLOGICAL.

206.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 111 |
| Minimum temperature | 67 |
| Maximum humidity | 79 % |
| Minimum humidity | 20 % |
| Rainfall | Nil |

EXCHANGE.

207.

| | |
|---|---|
| I Iraq Dinar | Rs 12 - 11 - 6 |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs 62 - 10 - 0 |
| 100 M. T. Silver Dollars | Rs 224 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 120 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

208. The S. S. Barala arrived here from Basrah on the 11th and left for India on the same day.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent,
Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 15th June, 1945.

G.A.M.

Secret.

35
(37)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1945 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Extracted | Under Secretary... | 2/7 | | |
| P.A | Secretary of State | | | Ext 3039/45 |
| | Pol Committee | 3 | | Ext 3040/45 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | Ext 3041/45 |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 3042/45 |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | Ext 3043/45 |

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summaries Nos 6 – 10. (March 15th – May 31st).

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

117, 120, 141, 145, 147, 162, 166 & 175. Locusts.

118. Conditions in the desert.

140, 158, 159 & 174. Relinquishment by Eastern Gulf Oil Company of sulphur concession; staff and equipment taken over by Kuwait Oil Company.

146 & 190. Trucks released by the M.E.S.C. for the Saudi Arabian Government.

Seen Political Committee 6/7.

6/7. 4/7. 4 vii. 7/7

(22220) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685 P.T.O.

167. Installation of new electric plant at Koweit.

171 & 172. VE-Day celebrations.

173 & 188. Bankruptcies

174. Managish well producing drinkable water.

180. Air-Sea Rescue Service High speed launch to be stationed at Koweit.

186. Kuwait Oil Company reconditioning wells, and propose to instal air-conditioning in Sheikhs palace at Dasman.

187. Drop in prices due to end of European war.

189. Heavy rain.

M. Odgers
27/6.

E&O Secretary. [illegible] 30/6

to see paragraphs 117, 120, 124, 141, 144, 145, 146, 147, 162, 165, 166, 173, 175, 178, 193 & 194. [illegible] 28/6

SECRET.

No. 10 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 31ST MAY, 1945.

VISITORS.

179. Majors G. H. Nutman and J. H. Blackhaller, accompanied by Sergeants L. L. Sutton and V. H. M. Daniel (Americans), arrived by plane from Iran on the 21st and left the same day. They came in connection with the disposal of the unassembled barges at Shuwaikh.

180. Wing Commander G. H. Walker, accompanied by Commander C. E. Perry, United States Naval Observer, Basrah, and four other officers, arrived by R. A. F. high speed launch on the 25th and left the next morning. The two senior officers stayed the night at the Agency. It is understood that an Air Sea Rescue Service high speed launch will be stationed at Kuwait and the personnel billeted in the quarantine building at present used by the Inland Water Transport at Shuwaikh.

RULING FAMILY.

181. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., went on an expedition to the south on the 21st and returned on the 25th. He went again on the 27th by launch while his followers went overland and returned on the 30th. The purpose of these journeys was to counter the attempt at slave trafficking reported by the Political Agent, Bahrain.

182. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Failachah on the 20th and returned on the 26th.

CALLS.

183. The following visited the Political Agent : His Highness, Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., Shaikh Hamood al Jarrah and his sons Ibrahim and Abdul Aziz.

LOCAL NEWS.

184. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait, accompanied by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., and Dr. Nykerk of the American Mission, left for Abadan by Anglo Iranian Oil Company plane on Friday, the 18th, for dental treatment. They returned the same morning.

185. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait, went on tour to Failachah Island and Fao by launch on the 20th and returned on the 23rd.

186. The Kuwait Oil Company continued work on the re-conditioning of their oil wells in Kuwait. They propose to air-condition three rooms in His Highness' palace at Dasman for this summer and to instal a comprehensive scheme by next summer.

ECONOMIC.

187. At the beginning of the period under report there was a sharp drop in commodity prices caused by the cessation of hostilities in Europe. Merchants found themselves with stocks of which the price had dropped to a quarter of what they had paid for them. Some were reported to be holding on to these stocks in anticipation of the outbreak of war between the Western Allies and the U. S. S. R., but sentiment was generally

/ bearish

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٣٨ظ] (١٢٦٤/٧٨)

- 2 -

bearish in the extreme. However, a sudden recovery in the price of gold sovereigns, which jumped from Rs 69/- to Rs 81/-, has done something to restore the balance. The rise is said to be due to a demand from Greece and the Levant. 50,000 sovereigns are reported to have arrived from India but confirmation is lacking.

188. Reference paragraph No. 173 of Intelligence Summary No. 9 of 1945. The Bank is a creditor of Ahmed Gharaballi to the extent of some Rs 25,000. It is hoped that the bank's claim will be met in full. Another bankruptcy, that of Mahmud, son of Jasim Sarraf, has occurred. His total liabilities are only about Rs 70,000 and the bank is not a creditor. He is being put to the question.

189. Very heavy rain interrupted an Arabic drama staged by the Education Department in the Ahmadiya School on the 17th. The performance was repeated on the 19th. The Political Agent attended on both occasions.

190. Reference paragraph No. 146 of Intelligence Summary No. 8 of 1945. Major Dickinson and his party arrived from Shaibah on the 28th and left for Riadh on the 30th. They had with them 140 4-ton trucks released by the Middle East Supply Centre for the use of the Saudi Arabian Government.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 191. | Maximum temperature | 109 |
| | Minimum temperature | 70 |
| | Maximum humidity | 82 % |
| | Minimum humidity | 15 % |
| | Rainfall | .49 " |

EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 192. | 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs 12 - 8 - 0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs 75 - 12 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver Dollars | Rs 241 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 125 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

193. The S. S. Barjora arrived from Basrah on the 21st and left the same day. She landed 30 packages.

194. The S. S. Tsinan arrived from India on the 26th and left the same day. She landed 406 packages including one truck for this agency.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency,
Kuwait.
the 3rd June, 1945.

SECRET.

No. 9 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH MAY, 1945.

VISITORS.

166. Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, Chief Locust Officer, Arabia, accompanied by Mr. Thesiger, another Locust Officer, and Captain McEwan, Locust Officer, East Arabia, arrived on the 2nd to inspect the progress of the anti-locust work here. A tactless approach to Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak caused the cessation of all work until the Political Agent's return on the 4th. On the 6th the first two left for Bahrain via Dhahran and the other two for Rumaihiya. These latter returned to Kuwait on the 14th and spent two nights here.

167. Mr. Morrison, Engineering Manager, Gray Mackenzie and Company Limited, arrived here on the 5th in connection with the installation of a new alternating current electric plant for Kuwait. He left on the 11th.

DEPARTURES.

168. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra on the 1st and returned to Kuwait on the 4th.

RULING FAMILY.

169. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went on a tour south of Khiran on the 14th. Before his departure he had instructed his people that, if he did not return the same night, they were not to worry as he would be back early the next morning. When he did not return the next morning, considerable excitement ensued and four cars containing search parties were sent out. They found that Shaikh Abdullah's car had been stuck in the muddy area of al Khiran since the evening of the 14th.

CALLS.

170. Calls were exchanged between the Political Agent and the following : Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., Shaikh Fahad as Salim and Shaikh Abdullah as Salim, C.I.E.

V. E. DAY.

171. The news of the fall of Berlin followed by the announcement of the unconditional surrender of all the German armed forces was received with great joy and enthusiasm by the local residents. Food was distributed among the poor by His Highness and the Political Agent on the 9th. The Political Agent entertained His Highness ~~and~~ the Shaikh and the leading members of the European community to lunch on the 8th and the remainder of the as Subah to an Arab dinner the same day. The entire European and American community were received at the Agency between 6.30 and 7.30 on the 8th and the leading Arabs from 9 to 11 A. M. the next day. The Anglo Indian and Indian community was entertained to tea on the 9th and the chief Arab merchants to dinner on the same day. An Ardha dance was held in the Safat for three days, and large sums of money were distributed to the poor by His Highness and Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak.

172. Notable absentees from all the festivities were Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, Fahad as Salim and Subah as Salim who, with remarkable tact and prescience, left for Failachah hurriedly on the evening of the 7th and did not return until the 10th. They have since offered their formal congratulations to the Agency.

LOCAL NEWS.

SECRET.

No. 9 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH MAY, 1945.



VISITORS.

166. Mr. Vesey Fitzgerald, Chief Locust Officer, Arabia, accompanied by Mr. Thesiger, another Locust Officer, and Captain McEwan, Locust Officer, East Arabia, arrived on the 2nd to inspect the progress of the anti-locust work here. A tactless approach to Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak caused the cessation of all work until the Political Agent's return on the 4th. On the 6th the first two left for Bahrain via Dhahran and the other two for Rumaihiya. These latter returned to Kuwait on the 14th and spent two nights here.

167. Mr. Morrison, Engineering Manager, Gray Mackenzie and Company Limited, arrived here on the 5th in connection with the installation of a new alternating current electric plant for Kuwait. He left on the 11th.

DEPARTURES.

168. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra on the 1st and returned to Kuwait on the 4th.

RULING FAMILY.

169. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went on a tour south of Khiran on the 14th. Before his departure he had instructed his people that, if he did not return the same night, they were not to worry as he would be back early the next morning. When he did not return the next morning, considerable excitement ensued and four cars containing search parties were sent out. They found that Shaikh Abdullah's car had been stuck in the muddy area of al Khiran since the evening of the 14th.

CALLS.

170. Calls were exchanged between the Political Agent and the following : Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., Shaikh Fahad as Salim and Sheikh Abdullah as Salim, C.I.E.

V. E. DAY.

171. The news of the fall of Berlin followed by the announcement of the unconditional surrender of all the German armed forces was received with great joy and enthusiasm by the local residents. Food was distributed among the poor by His Highness and the Political Agent on the 9th. The Political Agent entertained His Highness and the Shaikh and the leading members of the European community to lunch on the 8th and the remainder of the as Subah to an Arab dinner the same day. The entire European and American community were received at the Agency between 6.30 and 7.30 on the 8th and the leading Arabs from 9 to 11 A. M. the next day. The Anglo Indian and Indian community was entertained to tea on the 9th and the chief Arab merchants to dinner on the same day. An Ardha dance was held in the Safat for three days, and large sums of money were distributed to the poor by His Highness and Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak.

172. Notable absentees from all the festivities were Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, Fahad as Salim and Subah as Salim who, with remarkable tact and prescience, left for Failachah hurriedly on the evening of the 7th and did not return until the 10th. They have since offered their formal congratulations to the Agency.

LOCAL NEWS.

39
(41)

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS.

173. Ahmed Sayed Malik Gharabelli, a Kuwaiti merchant, declared himself insolvent.. The amount ~~his~~ he owes is estimated to be more than two lacs of rupees and it is expected that he will pay a third.

174. The dismantling of the derrick and rig at sulphur well No. 6 is in hand and the materials have been transferred to water well No. 20 at Manaqish. The latter well is producing drinkable but slightly brackish water at the rate of 100 gallons per minute. The Bargai oil well No. 5 is being prepared to take the derrick and rig for overhead work.

175. The campaign for the destruction of hoppers has been successfully concluded.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 176. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature | 100 |
| | Minimum temperature | 67 |
| | Maximum humidity | 96 % |
| | Minimum humidity | 16 % |
| | Rainfall | Nil |

EXCHANGE.

| 177. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs 12 - 8 - 0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs 74 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver Dollars | Rs 240 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 125 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

178. The S. S. Barjora called here from India on the 6th and left the same day. She landed 2,340 packages.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT.
the 16th May, 1945.

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS.

173. Ahmed Sayed Malik Gharabelli, a Kuwaiti merchant, declared himself insolvent. The amount he owes is estimated to be more than two lacs of rupees and it is expected that he will pay a third.

174. The dismantling of the derrick and rig at sulphur well No. 6 is in hand and the materials have been transferred to water well No. 20 at Manaqish. The latter well is producing drinkable but slightly brackish water at the rate of 100 gallons per minute. The Bargan oil well No. 5 is being prepared to take the derrick and rig for overhead work.

175. The campaign for the destruction of hoppers has been successfully concluded.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 176. | Maximum temperature | 100 |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | 67 |
| | Maximum humidity | 96 |
| | Minimum humidity | 15 |
| | Rainfall | Nil |

EXCHANGE.

| 177. | 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs 12 - 8 - 0 |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | Rs 74 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver Dollars | Rs 240 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 125 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

178. The S. S. Barjora called here from India on the 6th and left the same day. She landed 2,340 packages.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT.
the 16th May, 1946.

SECRET

No. 8 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 30TH APRIL, 1945.

VISITORS.

145. Captain McEwan of the Locust Mission arrived from Rumaihiya on the 19th and left the same day.

146. Major Dickinson and Messrs. Reeves and Grant arrived here on the 25th from Saudi Arabia. They are working for the M.E.S.C., and were passing through Kuwait to Zubair to collect 150 4-ton lorries for the Saudi Government. They were accompanied by Rushi Beg, a Saudi official.

147. Lieutenant W. R. C. Prosser, Paiforce, arrived on the 27th with 10 vehicles loaned by the South Iraq Area for the Anti - Locust operations here.

148. Major E. C. Beecher and Mr. C. N. Ryan, Director of Information, M. E., arrived here by car from Basra on the 28th and left on the 29th. They stayed at the Agency.

149. Major Norris, Captain Myers and Lieutenant Hawkins, accompanied by two nursing sisters arrived on the 28th and dined at the Agency. At 7 A. M. on the 29th the called on His Highness and later left for Shaibah.

150. On the 21st and 22nd two parties consisting of one officer and 60 B. O. R's and 11 airmen respectively camped outside the Kuwait wall for the week-end. They were entertained to lunch by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.. It is understood that parties of officers and men will visit Kuwait every week-end in future.

FOREIGNERS.

151. Sayid Muhsin Abu Tabik, a member of the Iraq Parliament arrived here on the 27th. He was the guest of Abdul Aziz Nafisi. He called on the Political Agent and left on the 28th for Medina on pilgrimage.

DEPARTURES.

152. Mr. C. M. Desai and film unit of the Department of Broadcasting and Information of the Government of India left for Bahrain by air on the 20th.

153. Mr. T. E. Patrick left by Company's plane for Abadan on the 28th. From Abadan he will proceed to the U.S.A. to discuss matters regarding closing of the sulphur concession.

154. Mr. G. N. Jackson, the Political Agent, left in the Agency launch on the 24th for the United Kingdom via Basra.

RULING FAMILY.

155. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Falaicha Island on the 19th and returned on the 23rd.

CALLS.

156. Calls were exchanged with the following. Shaikh Sir Ahmed al Jabir As-Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.; Shaikhs Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.; Abdullah Salim, C.I.E.; Fahas as Salim; Subah as Salim. Members of the Al Hamad, al Bahr, al Ghanim families.

LOCAL NEWS.

SECRET

FILE COPY

No. 8 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 30TH APRIL, 1945.

VISITORS.

145. Captain McEwan of the Locust Mission arrived from Rumaithiya on the 19th and left the same day.

146. Major Dickinson and Messrs. Reeves and Grant arrived here on the 25th from Saudi Arabia. They are working for the M.E.S.C., and were passing through Kuwait to Zubair to collect 150 4-ton lorries for the Saudi Government. They were accompanied by Rushi Beg, a Saudi official.

147. Lieutenant W. R. C. Prosser, Paiforce, arrived on the 27th with 10 vehicles loaned by the South Iraq Area for the Anti-Locust operations here.

148. Major E. C. Beecher and Mr. C. M. Ryan, Director of Information, M. E., arrived here by car from Basra on the 28th and left on the 29th. They stayed at the Agency.

149. Major Norris, Captain Myers and Lieutenant Hawkins, accompanied by two nursing sisters arrived on the 28th and dined at the Agency. At 7 A. M. on the 29th they called on His Highness and later left for Shaibah.

150. On the 21st and 22nd two parties consisting of one officer and 60 B. O. R's and 11 airmen respectively camped outside the Kuwait wall for the week-end. They were entertained to lunch by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.. It is understood that parties of officers and men will visit Kuwait every week-end in future.

FOREIGNERS.

151. Sayid Muhsin Abu Tabik, a member of the Iraq Parliament arrived here on the 27th. He was the guest of Abdul Aziz Nafisi. He called on the Political Agent and left on the 28th for Medina on pilgrimage.

DEPARTURES.

152. Mr. C. M. Desai and film unit of the Department of Broadcasting and Information of the Government of India left for Bahrain by air on the 20th.

153. Mr. T. E. Patrick left by Company's plane for Abadan on the 28th. From Abadan he will proceed to the U.S.A. to discuss matters regarding closing of the sulphur concession.

154. Mr. G. N. Jackson, the Political Agent, left in the Agency launch on the 24th for the United Kingdom via Basra.

RULING FAMILY.

155. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 19th and returned on the 23rd.

CALLS.

156. Calls were exchanged with the following. Shaikh Sir Ahmed al Jabir As-Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.; Shaikhs Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.; Abdullah Salim, C.I.E.; Fahad as Salim; Subah as Salim. Members of the Al Hamad, al Bahr, al Ghanim families.

LOCAL NEWS.

LOCAL NEWS.

157. Shaikh Saleh bin Hussain of the Beni Khalid visited the Political Agent on the 21st. He came to Kuwait from Hesa to visit the Shaikh to whom he is related by marriage.

158. Shaikh Faza bin Handal of the Beni Malich section of the Muntafiq called on the Political Agent on the 20th April accompanied by his son Ali. Next day, the Political Agent, accompanied by Mr. Jackson, had coffee with Shaikh Faza in his tent 5 miles from Kuwait. The section is starting its spring move back to the Suq As Shuyukh area.

159. The Eastern Gulf Oil Company have abandoned their search for sulphur and dismantled their last rig and derrick. Their staff and equipment have been taken over by the Kuwait Oil Company, Mr. T. E. Patrick becoming Field Superintendent. Squadron Leader W. A. Chase (sometime A. L. O., Bahrain) has arrived and been placed in charge of administration.

160. The Shaikh continues to exhibit great interest in his launches. Much of the top-hamper has been removed from the yacht and continuous tinkering has induced the motor-boat Tarrad to go some three knots faster than her makers intended.

161. The combined schools held their annual sports and physical training display on the 28th. Those who had endured previous performances were of the opinion that neither the standard of physique nor of training had perceptibly improved. This is not surprising as the display is the result of a week's perfunctory practice rather than the fruit of a years diligent training. Prizes were distributed by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.

162. Locusts have continued to hatch in every direction and almost the whole area south of the Kuwait-Jahra line (approximately 2,000 square miles) is covered with first to fourth stage hoppers moving North and East. Early poisoning operations superintended by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and the Political Agent resulted in satisfactory kills - unfortunately including some goats and sheep - but, on the 19th, Captain McEwan of the Locust Mission left a Sudanese Supervisor who has since been in charge. Operations are now confined to the neighbourhood of the town wall with the object of keeping locusts out of the town itself, and even this will not be too easy. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak has been most helpful and energetic throughout, not from any conviction that the killing of locusts is a sacred duty or even desirable, (for the local feeling is that the hoppers should be allowed to take their haqq and go) but because it was the wish of the Agency.

METEOROLOGICAL.

163. Maximum temperature 92 Maximum humidity 81
Minimum temperature 64 Minimum humidity 16
Rainfall .03"

EXCHANGE.

164. 1 Iraq dinar Rs 12.11.6 1 £ (Gold sovereign) Rs 62.10.0
100 Saudi Rials Rs 120. 0.0 100 M.T.Silver Dollars Rs 224. 0.0

SHIPPING.

165. S. S. "Barala" called here on the 18th from Basrah and left for India the same day.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 1st May, 1945.

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS.

157. Shaikh Saleh bin Hussain of the Beni Khalid visited the Political Agent on the 21st. He came to Kuwait from Hasa to visit the Shaikh to whom he is related by marriage.

158. Shaikh Faza bin Handal of the Beni Malich section of the Muntafiq called on the Political Agent on the 20th April accompanied by his son Ali. Next day, the Political Agent, accompanied by Mr. Jackson, had coffee with Shaikh Faza in his tent 5 miles from Kuwait. The section is starting its spring move back to the Suq As Shuyukh area.

159. The Eastern Gulf Oil Company have abandoned their search for sulphur and dismantled their last rig and derrick. Their staff and equipment have been taken over ~~by~~ by the Kuwait Oil Company, Mr. T. E. Patrick becoming Field Superintendent. Squadron Leader W. A. Chase (sometime A. L. O., Bahrain) has arrived and been placed in charge of administration.

160. The Shaikh continues to exhibit great interest in his launches. Much of the top-hamper has been removed from the yacht and continuous tinkering has induced the motor-boat Tarrad to go some three knots faster than her makers intended.

161. The combined schools held their annual sports and physical training display on the 28th. Those who had endured previous performances were of the opinion that neither the standard of physique nor of training had perceptibly improved. This is not surprising as the display is the result of a week's perfunctory practice rather than the fruit of a years diligent training. Prizes were distributed by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E.

162. Locusts have continued to hatch in every direction and almost the whole area ~~of~~ south of the Kuwait-Jahra line (approximately 2,000 square miles) is covered with first to fourth stage hoppers moving North and East. Early poisoning operations superintended by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and the Political Agent resulted in satisfactory kills - unfortunately including some goats and sheep - but, on the 19th, Captain McEwan of the Locust Mission left a Sudanese Supervisor who has since been in charge. Operations are now confined to the neighbourhood of the town wall with the object of keeping locusts out of the town itself, and even this will not be too easy. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak has been most helpful and energetic throughout, not from any conviction that the killing of locusts is a sacred duty or even desirable, (for the local feeling is that the hoppers should be allowed to take their hagg and go) but because it was the wish of the Agency.

METEOROLOGICAL.

163. Maximum temperature 92 Maximum humidity 81
Minimum temperature 64 Minimum humidity 16
Rainfall .03"

EXCHANGE.

164. 1 Iraq dinar Rs 12.11.6 1 £ (Gold sovereign) Rs 62.10.0
100 Saudi Rials Rs 120. 0.0 100 M.T.Silver Dollars Rs 224. 0.0

SHIPPING.

165. S. S. "Barala" called here on the 18th from Basrah and left for India the same day.

Sd. M. P. O'C. Tandy.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 1st May, 1945.

SECRET

No. 7 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH APRIL, 1945.

VISITORS.

125. Majors Graham and Wass accompanied by Captain Roberts and five officers from 7 B.O.D. arrived on the 1st and left on the 2nd.

126. Major C.E.Beecher, Public Relations Officer, Basrah, arrived with a cinema van on the 2nd and left on the 5th. He gave three open-air shows in Kuwait which were extremely well attended and much appreciated.

127. Major M. P. O'C. Tandy, Officer on special duty, arrived from Basrah by launch on the 10th.

128. Mr. H. N. Steptoe, British Consul General, Basrah, arrived from Basrah on the 13th andleft on the 15th.

129. Lieutenant Commander Perry, and Lieutenant Hawkins, U. S. Naval Observers in Basrah visited Kuwait on the 12th and left on the 15th.

130. Colonel L. J. Donallach of No. 1 Base Workshops, Paiforce, visited Kuwait on the 11th.

131. Mr. C. M. Desai of the Department of Broadcasting and Information of the Government of India arrived from Bahrain by air on the 14th with his staff to take some shots of Kuwait for a documentary film of the Persian Gulf which he is producing.

RULING FAMILY.

132. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., returned from Faelicha Island on the 9th.

133. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, C.I.E., went to Jahra on the 9th and returned the same day.

CALLS.

134. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 2nd and 11th.

135. Shaikh Subah As-Salim called on the Political Agent on the 7th.

136. The Political Agent took Major Tandy to Hawali on the 11th to introduce him to His Highness the Shaikh at his Bayan Palace.

137. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 11th.

138. The Political Agent took Major Tandy to call on other members of the Ruling Family on the 11th, 12th and 15th.

SOCIAL.

139. On the 12th the Political Agent gave a dinner party to His Highness to meet Major M. P. O'C. Tandy.

LOCAL NEWS.

- 2 -



Extract

LOCAL NEWS.

140. On completion of their sixth exploratory well - which gave no indication of the presence of sulphur in workable quantities - the Eastern Gulf Oil Company, who were prospecting for Sulphur in Kuwait State, discontinued their search and placed their personnel and equipment at the disposal of the Kuwait Oil Company on the 1st April, 1945.

141. On the 13th the Political Agent and Major Tandy visited Wahra and Tawil 34 miles south of Kuwait to inspect locust hatchings and then went on the Abu Halaifa and Fantas in search of news of fresh hatchings. On the 15th Major Tandy, accompanied by Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., and a gang of labourers spread poisoned bait amont the hatchings at Wahra.

Further hatchings have since been reported at Manaqish, Kabd, Madaniyat and Jahra but it has not yet been possible to bait them all owing to the scarcity of transport.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 142. | Maximum temperature | 87 |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | 53 |
| | Humidity | 80 % |
| | Rainfall | .43" |

EXCHANGE.

| 143. | 1 Iraq dinar | Rs 12 - 9 - 0 |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | Rs 62 - 1 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver dollars | Rs 225 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 125 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

144. S. S. Tsinan arrived on the 5th from India and left on the 6th for Basrah. She landed 1,106 packages.

Sd. G. N. Jackson.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 16th April, 1945.

SECRET

No. 6 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 31ST MARCH, 1945.

VISITORS.

100. Mr. L. D. Scott arrived from Abadan on the 16th and left on the 17th.
101. Flight Lieutenant C. G. Dyper, Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Petrol Liaison staff, Iraq and Persia, arrived on the 18th and left on the 19th.
102. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., arrived here from Bushire by plane on the 26th and left for Khorramshahr on the 29th by Anglo Iranian Oil Company plane.
103. Lieutenant Colonel R. Chitty arrived by air on the 26th to discuss cypher security. He left the next day.
104. Lieutenant Colonel Hewitson of the Middle East Supply Centre, Baghdad, arrived by air on the 26th to discuss the supply of flour to Kuwait. He left the same afternoon.
105. Mr. J. A. Jameson, C.B.E., arrived from Abadan on the 27th and returned on the 29th.

RULING FAMILY.

106. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., returned from Faelicha Island on the 19th.
107. Shaikh Subah, His Highness' son, was operated for tonsillitis by Dr. G. Nykerk on the 30th.

CALLS.

108. Shaikh Abdullah Al Mubarak, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 18th.
109. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 25th.
110. The Political Agent called on His Highness at the Bayan Palace on the 25th.
111. His Highness Shaikh Sir Ahmed Al Jabir As Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., called on the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., on the 27th. The call was returned the same day at the Bayan Palace.
112. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., called on His Highness again on the 28th.
113. Mr. J. A. Jameson, C.B.E., called on the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., on the 27th.

SOCIAL.

114. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., was entertained during his stay by His Highness and Mr. J. A. Jameson, C.B.E.
115. The Political Agent gave a dinner party for the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E. The party was attended by His Highness, Mr. Jameson, C.B.E., and Mr. and Mrs Scott.

LOCAL NEWS.

116. On the 21st the Political Agent visited the Kuwait Government school camp at Fantas.
117. On the 22nd the Political Agent went to Matla to investigate reports of locust oviposition.
118- On the 22nd the Political Agent met Shaikh Rashid bin Barrak of the Beni Rashid and his four nephews. Shaikh Rashid stated that his tribe are camped near the Wadi Makhit adjoining the Wadi Ar Rummah - between Hail and Medina - and that he had come to Kuwait to call on His Highness. The Beni Rashid are members of the Hutaim confederation which also includes the Howeitat so often referred to by Lawrence and ~~like Lawrence's~~

/ friends

SECRET

No. 6 of 1945.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 31ST MARCH, 1945.

VISITORS.

100. Mr. L. D. Scott arrived from Abadan on the 16th and left on the 17th.
101. Flight Lieutenant C. G. Dyper, Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Petrol Liaison staff, Iraq and Persia, arrived on the 18th and left on the 19th.
102. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., arrived here from Bushire by plane on the 26th and left for Khorramshahr on the 29th by Anglo Iranian Oil Company plane.
103. Lieutenant Colonel R. Chitty arrived by air on the 26th to discuss cypher security. He left the next day.
104. Lieutenant Colonel Hewitson of the Middle East Supply Centre, Baghdad, arrived by air on the 26th to discuss the supply of flour to Kuwait. He left the same afternoon.
105. Mr. J. A. Jameson, O.B.E., arrived from Abadan on the 27th and returned on the 29th.

RULING FAMILY.

106. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., returned from Failicha Island on the 19th.
107. Shaikh Subah, His Highness' son, was operated for tonsillitis by Dr. G. Nykerk on the 30th.

CALLS.

108. Shaikh Abdullah Al Mubarak, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 18th.
109. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 25th.
110. The Political Agent called on His Highness at the Bayan Palace on the 25th.
111. His Highness Shaikh Sir Ahmed Al Jabir As Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., called on the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., on the 27th. The call was returned the same day at the Bayan Palace.
112. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., called on His Highness again on the 28th.
113. Mr. J. A. Jameson, O.B.E., called on the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., on the 27th.

SOCIAL.

114. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., was entertained during his stay by His Highness and Mr. J. A. Jameson, O.B.E.
115. The Political Agent gave a dinner party for the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E. The party was attended by His Highness, Mr. Jameson, O.B.E., and Mr. and Mrs Scott.

LOCAL NEWS.

116. On the 21st the Political Agent visited the Kuwait Government school camp at Fantas.
117. On the 22nd the Political Agent went to Matla to investigate reports of locust oviposition.
118- On the 22nd the Political Agent met Shaikh Rashid bin Barrak of the Beni Rashid and his four nephews. Shaikh Rashid stated that his tribe are camped near the Wadi Makhit adjoining the Wadi Ar Rummah - between Hail and Medina - and that he had come to Kuwait to call on His Highness. The Beni Rashid are members of the Hutaim confederation which also includes the Howeitat so often referred to by Lawrence and - like Lawrence's friends

friends - are not of the aristocracy of Arabia. Their chief claim to fame is perhaps their custody of the Harra breed of camels. They are extensively employed by better tribes as servants and have a long standing connection with Kuwait where they are employed by the Subah as guards and herdsmen. Shaikh Rashid said he and his companions had made the journey from the Wadi Makhit to Kuwait - about 480 miles as the crow flies - in 17 days by camel - a sufficient testimony to the excellence of the Harra breed. He reported that the grazing in Jejd was even better than in Kuwait territory and remarked on the excellent economic condition of the Shammar, Harb, Mutaire and Awazim through whose areas he had passed. He stated that in Nejd sheep for killing and ghee fetched only a third of the prices now ruling in Kuwait, and that there was no shortage of cloth, tea or coffee.

119. On the afternoon of the 27th the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, decorated Shaikh Abdullah Al Mubarak As Subah with the badge of the C.I.E. at a reception held at the Political Agency. Members of the Ruling Family, Arab notables and members of the British and American communities were invited. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., made a speech in Arabic congratulating Shaikh Abdullah Al Mubarak on his services to the Ruler and on his close co-operation with our organizations here. The reception at the Agency was followed by tribal dances in the town square which were attended by the Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., and the Ruler.

120. Flying locusts have been reported from almost all parts of Kuwait State and oviposition is widespread. The areas, however, have been noted and it is hoped that assistance from Anti-Locust Units will be forthcoming to deal with hoppers as they hatch.

121. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., accompanied by the Political Agent visited the Shigaiyah area on the 28th.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 122. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature | 77 |
| | Minimum temperature | 42 |
| | Humidity | 89 % |
| | Rainfall | .03" |

EXCHANGE.

| 123. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 Iraq dinar | Rs 12 - 9 - 0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold soveriegn) | Rs 61 - 10 - 0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver dollars | Rs 240 - 0 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs 120 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

124. S. S. Barjora arrived on the 16th from India and left the same day for Basrah. She landed 1,522 packages. She called again on the 25th from Basrah and left the same day after landing 150 packages.

Sd. G. N. Jackson.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 2nd April, 1945.

G.A.M.

Secret

30/45 46 (48)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1945. | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 7.4 | [illegible] | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | G | [illegible] | Ext 1620/45. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 3.
(February 13th – 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:

47. Good grazing in South West of Koweit State.

49. Continued shortage of fish.

50. Barley sowings doing well.

(?). Odgers 7/4.
[illegible] 7/4.

Seen Pol Committee
13/4.

[illegible] 13/4
[illegible] 11/4
[illegible] 11/4
G 11 iv
[illegible]

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 3 of 1945. 8 APR 1945

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st TO 15th FEBRUARY, 1945.

BRITISH OFFICIALS. On business.
38. Wing/C. J. Gyll Murray, R.A.F. and Sqd/Ldr. Alexander visited Kuwait on the 7th by air but were unable to leave the same day owing to bad visibility. They stayed the night in the Political Agency.

DEPARTURES.
39. Mr. and Mrs Scott left for Abadan on the 11th.

RULING FAMILY.
40. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., went on a tour of the Kuwait hinterland on the 2nd and returned on the 5th. He went out again on the 13th.
41. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., left for Failecha Island on the 5th.

CALLS.
42. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 1st and 6th.
43. Mr. Scott and Col. Dickson called on the Political Agent on the 8th and 10th.
44. The Political Agent called on His Highness on the 3rd and 15th at his Bayan Palace.
45. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 11th.

SOCIAL.
46. His Highness dined with the Political Agent on the 8th.

LOCAL NEWS.
47. On the 6th the Political Agent visited the Shigaiya area 90 miles from Kuwait on the South West extremity of the State. The grazing in the desert was exceptionally good and numerous Iraqi bedouin of the Muntafiq tribes were seen camped in the area.
48. Kuwait dhow Musaed has been reported by other dhow crews arriving here as lost with all hands between Karachi and Marmagao. It was carrying a cargo of rice for the Burma-Shell Company.
49. Reference paragraph No. 28 of Kuwait summary No. 24 of 1945.
Small quantities of fish have been taken during the period under report but the shortage continues.
50. Reference paragraph 488 of Kuwait summary No. 24 of 1944.
Intermittent rain during the latter half of January and early February have kept the ground moist and barley sowings are doing well
51. There has been an acute epedemic - generally diagnosed as Influenza - in the town for the last month and few families have entirely escaped.
52. Reference paragraph 491 of Kuwait summary No. 24 of 1944.
Reports received here indicate an improvement in security on the Shatt-al-Arab.
53. The Political Agent recently met Shaikh Mubarak bin Nasir bin Mubarak and three other members of the Al Abdullah branch of the Al Khalifa family of Bahrain. They were exiled from Bahrain after their grandfather was killed in an uncessful attempt to wrest the Shaikhdom of Bahrain from the late Shaikh Isa Al Khalifa at the beginning of his reign. The Al Abdulla branch then sought sanctuary with the Beni Hajir tribe of Nejd - a Saudi tribe closely allied to Ibn Saud. They informed the Political Agentthat they migrate between Salwa at the base of the Qatar Peninsular via Jubail to the Neutral Zone on the southern borders of Kuwait. They were recently encamped at Graih.
Shaikh Mubarak bin Nasir is married to the sister of Shaikh Abdulla bin Thaniof Qatar, and he receives allowances from Ibn Saud as well as from Shaikh Ahmed As-Subah of Kuwait and from Shaikh Salman Al Khalifa of Bahrain. He complained bitterly that, in spite of the Al Kalifa's rise to prosperity and the recent rise in the cost of living, his allowance from Bahrain had not been increased since it was originally given many years ago.

METEOROLOGICAL

Maximum temperature......63° Minimum....39°
Humidity......94% Rainfall.....92"

2.



EXCHANGE.

55. 1 Iraq dinar..................Rs 12-11-0
1 £ (Gold Sovereign)............Rs 61- 8-0.
100 M.T. Silver dollars...........Rs 240- 0-0.
100 Saudi Rials...................Rs 125- 0-0.

Sd/ G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th February, 1945.

Secret

49
(51)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1945 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distribution PA | Under Secretary... | | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 20-3 | | Ext 1193/45. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 2 (January 15th - 31st).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

28. Shortage of fish.

29. Decision of Koweit Electric Power Company to replace the D.C. plant with A.C. after the war.

30. Drilling operations for sulphur.

32. Fuel shortage: need for suitable oil stoves.

35. Prices.

M. Rodgers.
14/3

E&O Secretary MMN 19/3
see 28, 32, & 35-37.

15/3.

Seen Pol Committee
10/4.

10/4.
18/3
8/4
10/4

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No.2 of 1945.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 31ST JANUARY, 1945.

VISITORS. On business.

17. Mr. Ibrahim Ali Khan, Superintendent of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department arrived from Bahrain on the 27th to inspect the working of the Post and Telegraph office here.

18. Mr. and Mrs. Scott arrived from Abadan on the 29th.

DEPARTURES.

19. Messrs. Scott and Patrick left for Abadan on the 17th.

RULING FAMILY.

20. Shaikh Abdullah Al Mubarak, C.I.E., went on a tour of the Kuwait hinterland on the 16th and returned on the 17th. He again went out on the 24th and returned on the 26th.

21. His Highness went hawking on the 17th and returned on the 21st. On the 22nd he took up residence at his Bayan Palace for the spring.

22. Shaikh Abdullah Al Jabir joined His Highness' camp on the 18th and returned on the 21st.

23. Shaikhs Fahad As Salim and Subah As Salim moved to their spring quarters at Masila on the 25th.

CALLS.

24. Shaikhs Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., and Abdullah Al Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 23rd and 24th respectively.

25. The Political Agent made the usual call on His Highness on his moving out to his spring quarters.

26. Mr. Scott called on the Political Agent on the 31st.

LOCAL NEWS.

27. On the 30th January the Kuwait Police reported that a certain British Indian Subject, who lives alone, had not been seen to emerge from his house for 5 days. Thinking he was perhaps dead or seriously ill, the Political Agent appointed a committee consisting of the Agency Surgeon and another representative from the Agency to visit his house, accompanied by a representative of His Highness' Government. Receiving no reply to repeated knocking at the door, the party entered the house by a skylight and found the occupant asleep under a mountain of bed clothes pulled over his head. The occupant — awakened by the Agency Surgeon removing the bed clothes to feeling his pulse — assailed the party with a considerable volume of abuse. He proved to be in good physical health; but it appears that he was undergoing a self imposed 40 days' silence for religious meditation, of which the efficacy had been largely undone by the intrusion.

SHORTAGE OF FISH.

28. For reasons probably connected with their seasonal migrations — the fishermen say it is due to the cold — catches of fish in and around Kuwait Bay have been much reduced during the last month and the shortages have caused great hardship, the more so as the people of Kuwait have come to rely so much on local fish to make good other deficiencies in their diet. The pomfret season is, however, due to open in the first half of February and their arrival is anxiously awaited.



KUWAIT/

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٥٢ظ] (١٠٦/١٢٦٤)

KUWAIT ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

29. The Directors of the Kuwait Electric Power Company decided, at a recent meeting, to replace their present D.C. plant with A.C. plant, as soon as possible after the war. Their present equipment is dilapidated in the extreme, and is not sufficiently powerful to work wireless receivers when the load is at its peak.

EASTERN GENERAL OIL COMPANY.

30. On the 25th the Political Agent visited the scene of the Eastern General Oil Company's drilling operations for sulphur near to Burgan. Three prospecting wells have been drilled and a fourth has been started.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

31. On the 30th a military truck belonging to the Inland Water Transport Detachment collided with a private car and damaged the body of the latter. No one was hurt. Captain Henderson of the Inland Water Transport discussed the matter with Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E., who conducted an investigation.

FUEL SHORTAGE.

32. The cutting off of the usual supplies of charcoal from India, the difficulties and expense of obtaining supplies from other sources, coupled with the expense of transporting to the town 'Arfaj' (Rhantherium Epapposum Oliv.) — a desert shrub, on which Kuwait largely relied in the past for fuel — have combined to cause an acute fuel shortage. The desert around Kuwait upto a distance of 20 miles has been entirely denuded of 'Arfaj'; but the expense of transporting it on camels and donkeys from further afield has now made its cost prohibitive. Oil fuel is available in sufficient quantities at reasonable prices but has not been extensively used in the past largely because of ignorance and of lack of suitable oil stoves. The price of other fuels has now given conversion to oil a powerful fillip, and efforts are being made to secure as many suitable oil stoves as possible from England and elsewhere. In the long run the change over should benefit Kuwait considerably if it curtails the cutting of 'Arfaj', because the shrub is a valuable camel fodder and also serves, in some measure, to prevent soil erosion.

METEOROLOGICAL.

33. Maximum temperature............ 80°
Minimum " ............ 38°
Humidity...................... 100%
Rainfall...................... .7"

EXCHANGE.

34.
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraq Dinar.................. | Rs. 12-13-0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign).......... | " 58-00-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver Dollars......... | " 240-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials................. | " 125-00-0 |

PRICES.

35.

| | DURING PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. | | | IN SAME PERIOD OF 1939. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Wheat........ | Rs. 28-14-0 | per | bag........ | Rs. 5- 0-0 | per | bag. |
| *Barley....... | " 20- 0-0 | " | " ........ | " 4- 0-0 | " | " |
| *Vegetable Ghee | " 1- 0-0 | " | lb......... | " 0- 2-0 | " | lb. |
| *Sugar........ | " 76- 8-0 | " | bag........ | " 8- 0-0 | " | bag. |
| *Tea.......... | " 2- 0-0 | " | lb......... | " 0- 6-0 | " | lb. |
| *Dates........ | " 0- 0-6 | " | lb......... | " 0- 0-2 | " | lb. |
| Coffee....... | " 1- 4-0 | " | lb......... | " 0- 5-6 | " | lb. |
| Milk......... | " 1- 0-0 | " | pint....... | " 0- 3-0 | " | pint. |
| Potatoes..... | " 1-12-0 | " | lb......... | " 0- 1-3 | " | lb. |

Fruit/

52
(54)



| | DURING PERIOD UNDER REVIEW. | IN SAME PERIOD OF 1 9 3 9. |
|---|---|---|
| Fruit, imported...... | )Rs. 2- 0-0 per lb.)....... )" 2- 8-0 " lb.) | Rs. 0- 0-9 per lb. |
| Vegetables, imported. | " 1- 0-0 to Rs.1-8-0 per) lb.) | " 0- 0-9 " " |
| Fish................. | " 1- 8-0 per lb......... | " 0- 1-0 per lb. |
| Beef................. | " 1-10-0 " lb......... | " 0- 2-9 " " |
| Mutton............... | " 2- 0-0 " lb......... | " 0- 2-9 " " |
| Charcoal............. | " 48- 0-0 " maund(80 lbs) | " 3- 8-0 " maund (80 lbs). |
| Firewood............. | " 32- 0-0 " " " " | " 1- 8-0 " " |
| Drinking water, delivered............ | As.1 to As.2 per gallon.. | " 0- 0-4 " gallon. |
| Cooks' wages......... | Rs.100/- per month with ) food & Clothing.) | " 25- 0-0 per month with food & Clothing |

* CONTROLLED PRICES.

SHIPPING.

36. S.S. "Wosang" arrived from India on the 27th and left the same day. She landed 724 packages.

37. S.S. "E-Sang" arrived from Basrah on the 29th and left the same day.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

1st February, 1945.

Secret

(53)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1945 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| PA | Pol Committee | 23.2 | AS | EXT 728/45 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | EXT 729/45 |
| | Secretary of State | | | EXT 730/45 |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | EXT 731/45 |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summaries
Nos 22, 23 & 24 of 1944
No 1 of 1945.
(November 16th 1944 - January 15th 1945)

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

420, 448. Activities of members of anti-locust mission.

434. Arrival of new Egyptian Director of Education.

485. Exemplary conduct of B.O.Rs stationed at Koweit.

486. Distribution of consignment of second-hand overcoats from America.

487. Tour of Political Agent in Koweit territory.

Seen Pol. Committee. 1/3/45.

28/2
28/2
28/2

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

488-90. Heavy rains: barley crop.

491. Sailing craft attacked by armed pirates at the mouth of the Shatt-al-Arab.

6. Completion of I.W.T. barge building programme.

8. Aerodrome closed after heavy rains.

11. Effectiveness of rationing system curtailed by non-arrival of piece-goods from India.

12. B.B.C. announcement of relaxation of restrictions on exports from the U.K. to the Middle East.

M. Odgers
21/2.

E & O Secretary [initials] 22/2

to see paras. 442, 471 & 2, 486, 488-90, 494, 11, 12 & 15.

[initials]
21/2.

SECRET No. 1 of 1945.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD from 1st to 15th JANUARY, 1945.





BRITISH VISITORS. On business.

1. Flight Lieut. Webster visited Kuwait from Shaibah on the 9th and left the same day.

2. Messrs Scott and Drake arrived from Abadan on the 14th.

AMERICANS.

3. Dr. G. Nykerk left by U.S. Army plane for Abadan for dental treatment and returned on the 14th.

RULING FAMILY.

4. Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., Fahad As-Salim, and Abdullah Al Khalifah went to Faleicha Island on the 9th. The party returned on the 12th.

CALLS.

5. Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E. and Abdullah Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 7th.

THE I.W.T.

6. The I.W.T. have completed their barge-building programme in Kuwait and are now preparing to depart.

R.A.F.

7. His Highness had kindly offered the large house at Shuwaikh, at present occupied by the I.W.T., for the use of the R.A.F. as a rest house as soon as the I.W.T. are withdrawn from Kuwait. The house is His Highness' own property and he has again offered it free of rent. The R.A.F. have accepted the offer.

8. The aerodrome was closed on the 1st January after the heavy rains of the 31st December and was reopened on the 6th January. It was again closed on the 12th and re-opened on the 14th. Repairs to the runway have since been completed.

LOCAL NEWS.

9. The usual New Year's reception of members of all communities was held on the 1st January at the Political Agency. His Highness and other members of the Al Subah called on the Political Agent from 10 to 11.30 A.M. and the British and American communities were asked for 12 noon.

10. Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifah and Shaikh Ali bin Abdullah Al Khalifah of Bahrain are reported to be hawking at Qaisun, 150 miles South East of Kuwait in Saudi territory.

11. In June last year the Kuwait Government formed an organization to ration and to control prices of piece-goods received from India. They have now an efficient rationing system but its effectiveness has been considerably curtailed because the full sanctioned quotas of piece-goods have not arrived from India. 54 tons of the quotas sanctioned do not appear to have yet even been licensed for export.

12. Considerable excitement was caused in the town by the announcement, in the B.B.C's broadcast in Arabic, that restrictions on the export trade from the United Kingdom to the Middle

SECRET

No. 1 of 1945.

INDEXED

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
from 1st to 15th JANUARY, 1945.

---------

BRITISH VISITORS. On business.

1. Flight Lieut. Webster visited Kuwait from Shaibah on the 9th and left the same day.

2. Messrs Scott and Drake arrived from Abadan on the 14th.

AMERICANS.

3. Dr. G. Nykerk left by U.S. Army plane for Abadan for dental treatment and returned on the 14th.

RULING FAMILY.

4. Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., Fahad as-Salim, and Abdullah Al Khalifah went to Failaka Island on the 9th. The party returned on the 12th.

CALLS.

5. Shaikhs Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., Abdullah Mubarak, C.I.E. and Abdullah Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 7th.

THE I.W.T.

6. The I.W.T. have completed their barge-building programme in Kuwait and are now preparing to depart.

R.A.F.

7. His Highness had kindly offered the large house at Shuwaikh, at present occupied by the I.W.T., for the use of the R.A.F. as a rest house as soon as the I.W.T. are withdrawn from Kuwait. The house is His Highness' own property and he has again offered it free of rent. The R.A.F. have accepted the offer.

8. The aerodrome was closed on the 1st January after the heavy rains of the 31st December and was reopened on the 6th January. It was again closed on the 12th and re-opened on the 14th. Repairs to the runway have since been completed.

LOCAL NEWS.

9. The usual New Year's reception of members of all communities was held on the 1st January at the Political Agency. His Highness and other members of the Al Subah called on the Political Agent from 10 to 11.30 A.M. and the British and American communities were asked for 12 noon.

10. Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifah and Shaikh Ali bin Abdullah Al Khalifah of Bahrain are reported to be hawking at Gelsun, 130 miles South East of Kuwait in Saudi territory.

11. In June last year the Kuwait Government formed an organization to ration and to control prices of piece-goods received from India. They have now an efficient rationing system but its effectiveness has been considerably curtailed because the full sanctioned quotas of piece-goods have not arrived from India. 54 tons of the quotas sanctioned do not appear to have yet even been licensed for export.

12. Considerable excitement was caused in the town by the announcement, in the B.B.C's broadcast in Arabic, that restrictions on the export trade from the United Kingdom to the Middle

55 (57)

- 2 -

were to be relaxed; and a deputation of merchants called on the Political Agent to ask for further details.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 13. | Maximum temperature ............. | 65° |
| | Minimum temperature ............. | 44° |
| | Humidity........................ | 100% |
| | Rainfall ........................ | 1.88" |

EXCHANGE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 14. | 1 Iraq Dinar ................. | Rs. | 12-13-0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign).......... | " | 64- 0-0 |
| | 100 M. T. Silver Dollars ........ | " | 211- 0-0 |
| | 100 Silver Rials ............... | " | 150- 0-0 |

SHIPPING.

15. S.S. "Barjora" arrived from India on the 11th and left the same day. She landed 311 packages.

Sgd. G. N. Jackson.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th January, 1945.

- 2 -

were to be relaxed; and a deputation of merchants called on the Political Agent to ask for further details.

METEOROLOGICAL.

13. Maximum temperature ............ 65°
Minimum temperature ............ 44°
Humidity ........................ 100%
Rainfall ........................ 1.88"

EXCHANGE.

14. 1 Iraq Dinar .................. Rs. 12-13-0
1 £ (Gold sovereign)........... " 64- 0-0
100 M. T. Silver Dollars ........ " 211- 0-0
100 Silver Rials ................ " 180- 0-0

SHIPPING.

15. S.S. "Barjora" arrived from India on the 11th and left the same day. She landed 311 packages.

Sgd. G. N. Jackson.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

18th January, 1945.

SECRET.

No.24 of 1944.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 15TH TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1944.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

473. Messrs. Scott and Drake arrived from Abadan on the 20th.

474. Major Frank Holmes arrived from Basrah on the 23rd.

(b) Privately.

475. Major Donald A. Goldfinch and Sgt.W. Johnson of the Royal Engineers, General Headquarters, Paiforce, arrived here on the 22nd.

476. Lieut. H.Y.W.S. Dickson arrived on the 31st by A.I.O.C. plane and left the same day.

DEPARTURES.

477. Mr. Scott left for Abadan on the 21st.

RULING FAMILY.

478. Shaikh Abdullah Al Salim, C.I.E., returned from Failecha Island on the 17th and again left for the island on the 26th. He returned to Kuwait on the 29th.

479. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went on a tour of the Kuwait hinterland on the 20th and returned on the 23rd.

480. His Highness returned from hawking on the 27th.

CALLS.

481. Shaikhs Juma bin Thani and Thani bin Abdullah of Qatar arrived here from Mecca on the 15th and called on the Political Agent.

482. Shaikhs Abdullah Salim and Abdullah Mubarak, called on the Political Agent on the 17th.

483. The Political Agent called on His Highness at the Dasman Palace on the 28th.

QATAR.

484. Reference paragraph 373 of Kuwait summary No.20 of 1944.
It is now clear that Abdullah bin Darwish is the confidential agent of Shaikh Hamed bin Abdullah Al Thani, and Jassim bin Derwish is Shaikh Hamed's pearl broker; and not the personal secretary of Shaikh Hamed's father.

Ruler of Qatar

LOCAL NEWS.

485. On Christmas morning Kuwait saw what must have been its first B.O.Rs' church parade. Men of the I.W.T. and R.A.F. stationed here paraded for the service in the American Arabian Mission's Chapel. They afterwards received members of the British and American communities in their camp; and were entertained by the civilians of Kuwait in turn throughout Christmas week.
Men of these units have been a very pleasant addition to the community here, and their behaviour towards the Arabs has been exemplary. Indeed, they have been a great credit to the British Army and the R.A.F., and Arabs of all classes have expressed admiration for their discipline and behaviour.



486. A consignment of second hand overcoats recently imported from Ameria has proved most useful to the poor of Kuwait and its hinterland during the recent cold spell. The coats were sold to holders of clothing coupons for Rs.6/-, Rs.8/-, and Rs.10/-; and, such was the rush to buy them, that four extra distribution centres had to be opened/

57 (59)

- 2 -

opened to deal with applicants. The market price of such coats is Rs.30/- to Rs.40/-.

487. On the 29th December the Political Agent visited the Grain Wells 5 miles South of the Kuwait border in the Neutral Zone. He travelled via the Subahiyah wells to gather and check information concerning the migrations of Kuwait Bedouin and their alleged connection with the arms traffic to Persia. On the 31st December the Political Agent with Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak attempted to reach Shigaiyah in the South-west corner of the State; but a heavy and prolonged rain storm which broke when the party had got beyond Jahara made cross-country motoring beyond Umm Amarat Mahzul impossible, and the Political Agent had to return without reaching his objective. Cars of the party were twice bogged on the return journey and had to be pulled out by a mixed team of men and camels.

488. As far as possible advantage was taken of the good rains early in the winter to plant barley in the desert wherever there is any chance of getting a crop. A number of hollows in the desert were sown and sowings are doing well. Grazing is also plentiful in the desert.

489. The heavy rains of the 23rd, 24th and 31st December, however, were not an unmixed blessing. Considerable damage was done to house property in the town by the storm of the 31st December. Part of a line of shops in the market fell down the next morning when the shops were full of people. Fortunately only one man was hurt. Damage to house property at such a time is particularly unwelcome as housing, labour, and building materials of all kinds are extremely expensive and difficult to come by.

490. The road between Kuwait and Basrah was closed by rain and mails were held up from the 24th to the 27th December.

491. On the evening of the 29th December three sailing craft were attacked in the mouth of the Shatt-al-Arab above ~~Fao~~ FAO by armed pirates. Only one of the craft attacked was a Kuwaiti, and it escaped by outsailing the pirates; but not before it had received fourteen shot holes in the sails.

492. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature.......... | 64° |
| Minimum temperature.......... | 48° |
| Humidity...................... | 94% |
| Rainfall...................... | 1.49" |

493. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraq Dinar................. | Rs. 12/14/-. |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)........ | " 64/-/-. |
| 100 | M.T. Silver Dollars....... | " 210/-/-. |
| 100 | Silver Rials.............. | " 149/-/-. |

494. SHIPPING.

S.S. Barala arrived from Basrah on the 31st and left the same day.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd January, 1_9_4_5.

SECRET.

No. 23 of 1944.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM
1st to 15th DECEMBER, 1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.
(a) On Business.

447. Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble the Political Resident left for Bushire on the "Nearchus" on the 2nd.

448. Mr. Vesey-Fitzgerald, of the Anti-Locust Mission, arrived here on the 2nd with a large convoy of vehicles and left for Dhahran on the 3rd.

449. Wing Commander Gyll-Murray visited Kuwait on the 6th.

OTHER VISITORS.

450. Mr. T. M. Peace of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company visited Kuwait on the 4th.

451. Messrs Dobson and Jones arrived from Abadan on the 7th.

DEPARTURES.

452. Mr. Scott left for Abadan on the 7th.

RULING FAMILY.

453. Shaikh Fahad as Salim returned from Egypt on the 8th. He accompanied Shaikh Abdulla Salim to Failecha on the 12th.

454. Shaikh Ali bin Salman al Hamood as Subah died on the 11th. He was the leading bootlegger in the town and is reported to have died of a too liberal sampling of his own wares.

455. His Highness, accompanied by Shaikhs Salim Hamood, Abdulla Jabir, and his two younger sons went hawking on the 15th.

CALLS.

456. His Highness, Shaikhs Abdulla al Jabir, Abdulla al Mubarak, A. al Ahmad, Abdullah Khalifa and Subah as Salim had interviews with the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 2nd.

457. The Political Agent called on His Highness, Shaikhs Abdulla Salim and Abdulla Mubarak on the 3rd.

458. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim called on the Political Agent on the 4th and 10th.

459. Abdulla Mulla Saleh, His Highness' Secretary, Mr. Scott and Dr. Hynes had interviews with the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 2nd.

460. Mr. Watson, Officer in Charge of Cable and Wireless, called on the Political Agent on the 11th.

461. Shaikh Fahad as Salim accompanied by his two nephews called on the Political Agent on the 11th.

462. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Abdulla Jabir on the 13th.

SOCIAL.

463. The Hon'ble the Political Resident lunched with Shaikh Abdulla Jabir on the 1st.

464. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim dined with the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 1st.

LOCAL NEWS.

LOCAL NEWS.

465. Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa al Khalifah, uncle of the Ruler of Bahrain, is encamped at Gaisun, 150 miles South East of Kuwait, where he is reported to be hawking.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

466. A Royal Air Force 'plane made a forced landing here on the 4th. The crew were accomodated at the Agency for the night and the 'plane was flown back to Basrah on the 5th, after being repaired.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

467. Dr. Yahya Hadidi and his family returned from the pilgrimage on the 14th.

PILGRIMAGE.

468. A number of Dubai subjects arrived here xx from Mecca on the 15th.

METEOROLOGICAL.

469.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | ....... | 73° |
| Minimum " | ....... | 51° |
| Humidity | ....... | 88% |
| Rainfall | ....... | .66" |

EXCHANGE.

470.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar ................ | Rs. | 12-14-0 |
| 1 £ Gold Soverign ........... | " | 62- 8-0 |
| 100 M. T. Silver Dollars .... | " | 250- 8-0 |
| 100 Silver Rials ............ | " | 130- 8-0 |

SHIPPING.

471. S.S. "Barala" arrived from India on the 13th and landed 4532 packages, she left for Basrah the same day.

472. S.S. "Wosang" arrived from Basrah on the 13th and left for India the same day.

Sd/- G. N. JACKSON.

Political Agent, Kuwait

167

SECRET. No. 22 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16th to 30 th November 1944.

---------------

BRITISH OFFICIALS. (a) On business.

419. Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived here on the 28th. He was accompanied by his Under Secretary, Mr J.Croning, M.B.E.

420. Captain Milne, R.A.M.C., of the M.E. Anti-Locust mission, visited Kuwait for the day on the 24th and attempted to recruit lorry drivers without success. He passed through again with the advance party on the 28th en route to Al-Khobar.

OTHER VISITORS.

421. Messrs. Scott, Williams, Clarkson and Teggart, arrived here from Abadan on the 16th.

422. Mrs. Scott arrived here from Abadan on the 19th.

423. Messrs. Bywater, Wilkinson, Weeks and Mrs. Selk, arrived from Abadan on the 24th.

424. Messrs. Hooper and Peace arrived here from Abadan on the 28th.

DEPARTURES.

425. Messrs. Bywater, Williams, Weeks, Hooper and Mrs. Selk left for Abadan on the24th.

426. Mr Peace left for Abadan on the 28th.

AMERICANS.

427. Messrs. H. Hall, C.M. Rosebrugh, O. Wolf and J. Ramsay, oil engineers arrived here by U.S. Army plane on the 20th. They left for Dhahran on the 21st.

RULING FAMILY.

428. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went hawking on the 15th and returned on the 17th.

429. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Failecha Island on the 23rd and returned on the 27th.

CALLS.

430. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 18th, 19th and 30th.

431. His Highness the Ruler called on the Hon'ble thePolitical Resident on the 28th. The call was returned by the Hon'ble the Political Resident the same day. The Hon'ble the Political Resident called again on His Highness the Ruler at Dasman Palace on the 29th.

432. Mr. Haig called on the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 30th

433. Shaikh Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 30th.

167

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

434. Sadiq Hamdi the new Egyptian Director of Education for Kuwait arrived on the 16th. He called on the Political Agent on the 20th.

SOCIAL.

435. The Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdullah Jabir on the 22nd.

436. Captain Milne lunched with the Political Agent on the 24th.

437. His Highness dined with the Hon'ble the Political Resident at the Agency. Colonel and Mrs, Dickson, and Mr. And Mrs Scott were also present.

438. The Hon'ble the Political Resident accompanied by the Political Agent dined with His Highness on the29th at Dasman palace He also dined with Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak on the 30th.

'ID CELEBRATIONS.

439. 'Id Al-Adhah was celebrated on the 25th and 26th with the usual exchange of calls.

SECRET.

No. 22 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16th to 30 th November 1944.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS. (a) On business.

419. Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived here on the 28th. He was accompanied by his Under Secretary, Mr J.Croning, M.B.E.

420. Captain Milne, R.A.M.C., of the M.E. Anti-Locust mission, visited Kuwait for the day on the 24th and attempted to recruit lorry drivers without success. He passed through again with the advance party on the 28th en route to Al-Khobar.

OTHER VISITORS.

421. Messrs. Scott, Williams, Clarkson and Teggart, arrived here from Abadan on the 16th.

422. Mrs. Scott arrived here from Abadan on the 19th.

423. Messrs. Bywater, Wilkinson, Weeks and Mrs. Selk, arrived from Abadan on the 24th.

424. Messrs. Hooper and Peace arrived here from Abadan on the 28th.

DEPARTURES.

425. Messrs. Bywater, Williams, Weeks, Hooper and Mrs. Selk left for Abadan on the24th.

426. Mr Peace left for Abadan on the 28th.

AMERICANS.

427. Messrs. H. Hall, C.M. Rosebrugh, O. Wolf and J. Ramsay, oil engineers arrived here by U.S. Army plane on the 20th. They left for Dhahran on the 21st.

RULING FAMILY.

428. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went hawking on the 15th and returned on the 17th.

429. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Failecha Island on the 23rd and returned on the 27th.

CALLS.

430. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 18th, 19th and 30th.

431. His Highness the Ruler called on the Hon'ble thePolitical Resident on the 28th. The call was returned by the Hon'ble the Political Resident the same day. The Hon'ble the Political Resident called again on His Highness the Ruler at Dasman Palace on the 29th.

432. Mr. Haig called on the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 30th

433. Shaikh Mohammed Al-Ahmad Al-Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 30th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

434. Sadiq Hamdi the new Egyptian Director of Education for Kuwait arrived on the 16th. He called on the Political Agent on the 20th.

SOCIAL.

435. The Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdullah Jabir on the 22nd.

436. Captain Milne lunched with the Political Agent on the 24th.

437. His Highness dined with the Hon'ble the Political Resident at the Agency. Colonel and Mrs, Dickson, and Mr. And Mrs Scott were also present.

438. The Hon'ble the Political Resident accompanied by the Political Agent dined with His Highness on the29th at Dasman palace He also dined with Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak on the 30th.

'ID CELEBRATIONS.

439. 'Id Al-Adhah was celebrated on the 25th and 26th with the usual exchange of calls.

61
(63)

2.

METEOROLOGICAL.

440. Maximum temperature..............78°
Minimum " ..............56°
Humidity........................94%
Rainfall........................1.24"

EXCHANGE.

441. 1 Iraqi dinar..................Rs 12-14-0
1 £ (Gold sovereign)............" 64- 0-0
100 M.T. Silver dollars...........";240- 0-0
100 Saudi Rials...................." 126-0-0-

SHIPPING.

442. S.S."Vosang" Indo China S.N.Company, calledon the 28th November. She landed 2051 packages.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.

Political Agent,
Kuwait

1st December,1944.

2.

METEOROLOGICAL.

440. Maximum temperature............78°
Minimum " ............56°
Humidity........................94%
Rainfall........................1.24"

EXCHANGE.

441. 1 Iraqi dinar.................Rs 12-14-0
1 £ (Gold sovereign)............" 64- 0-0
100 M.T. Silver dollars.........." 240- 0-0
100 Saudi Rials.................." 126-0-0-

SHIPPING.

442. S.S."Vosang" Indo China S.N.Company, calledon the 28th November. She landed 2051 packages.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.

Political Agent,
Kuwait

1st December,1944.

Secret

62
(64)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1945 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23/1/45 | Under Secretary... | 11/1 | | |
| 30/45 | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 11 | | EXT 5863/44 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | EXT 5864/44 |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | EXT 5865/44. |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT :- Intelligence Summaries Nos 19, 20 & 21 (Oct 1st – Nov 15th.)

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

351. Arrival of Syrian Medical Officer engaged by Koweit Government.

372. Arrival of four Egyptian teachers.

374 & 413. Ford Station wagon brought from Iraq for sale impounded and returned to Iraq.

375 & 414. The Pilgrimage

376. Pearl catch less than last year, but

23/1

15/1

17/1

Seen Pol Cttee 23/1/45

(22220) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

Prices reported higher.

M. Rolgers
6/1.

[illegible] 8/1

E & O Secretary

See paragraphs 364, 385,-388, 418.

Political Secretary

[illegible] 9/1

See paras 377 & 414.

[illegible]
6/1

SECRET. No.21 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH NOVEMBER, 1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS. (a) On business.

398. Mr. Lingeman, Commercial Secretary at the British Embassy, Baghdad, arrived here by A.I.O.C. plane on the 9th and returned to Basrah on the 10th. He was accompanied by Mr. Clerk.

399. Captain P.G. Pasqua, Assistant Director of Road Transport, Iraq, arrived here on the 4th and left the next day.

400. Captain F.L. Southey, Army Hirings Officer, arrived here on the 8th and left the next day.

401. Flight Lieut. H.W. Rowe, R.A.F. Signals Officer, arrived here on the 9th and left on the 11th.

402. Commodore I.W. Whitehorn, R.N. (Retired) the new Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived here on the 14th. He was accompanied by Commander J.F. Stoy, R.N.. Commodore Whitehorn called on His Highness the Ruler at 10.30 a.m. at the Dasman Palace. The call was returned by His Highness at the Agency at 11 a.m.. The Commodore left Kuwait early the next morning.

(b) Privately.

403. Captain Abdul Aziz Khan, I.A., of No.506 Army Works Coy., arrived here on the 12th and left for Mecca the next day.

OTHER VISITORS.

404. Mrs. Scott arrived here from Abadan on the 2nd.

405. Messrs. Hooper and Patrick arrived from Abadan on the 13th.

DEPARTURES.

406. Mr. Bowlby left for Abadan on the 2nd.

407. Messrs. Scott, Williams and Hooper, and Mrs. Scott left for Abadan on the 9th.

RULING FAMILY.

408. His Highness, accompanied by Shaikhs Salim Al-Hamodd, Abdullah Al-Jabir, and his two younger sons Jabir and Subah, went into camp in the desert on the 4th. The party returned on the 13th.

CALLS.

409. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak As-Subah called on the Political Agent on the 12th.

SOCIAL.

410. On the 14th the Political Agent gave a dinner party for His Highness to meet the new Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.



LOCAL NEWS.

411. The news of the assasination of Lord Moyne was received/

64
(66)

- 2 -

received here with horror by all classes.

412. Reference paragraph 320 of Kuwait summary No.18. Abdullah Mulla Saleh, Secretary to His Highness, returned to Kuwait on the 7th.

413. Reference paragraph 374 of Kuwait summary No.20. The Ford Vehicle was handed over to Captain P.G. Pasqua at the Political Agency on the 4th.

PERSIAN PILGRIMS.

414. All Persian Pilgrims who came to Kuwait en route to Mecca have now been persuaded to leave Kuwait for Persia.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

415. Reference paragraph 187 of Kuwait summary No.12. The Kuwait Oil Company have started work on the extension of the tarmac road from His Highness' Palace to the main square of the town.

METEOROLOGICAL.

416. Maximum temperature.......... 90°
Minimum temperature.......... 61°
Humidity..................... 89%
Rainfall..................... .13 inches.

EXCHANGE.

417. 1 Iraqi dinar............... Rs. 12-14-0
1 £ (Gold sovereign)........ " 62- 8-0
100 M.T. Silver Dollars...... " 250- 8-0
100 Saudi Rials.............. " 130- 8-0

SHIPPING.

418. No steamer called at this port during the period under report.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th November, 1944.

SECRET. NO. 20 OF 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 16TH TO 31ST OCTOBER, 1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

365. The Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Shaibah by air on the 22nd for admission into hospital. He returned on the 28th by road.

366. Major A.L. GREENWAY, C.Q.M.O., Bushire, arrived on the 22nd by S.S. "BARALA". He left for Basra by road on the 24th.

367. Lieut. General Sir ARTHUR SMITH, Commander-in-Chief, Paiforce, arrived by road on the 31st. He was accompanied by Brigadier HINCHCLIFFE, Area Commander, Southern Paiforce, and by his Military Assistant. He returned to Basra on the 1st.

OTHER VISITORS.

368. Mr. L.F. HOOPER arrived from Abadan on the 16th and returned to Abadan on the 25th. He came to Kuwait again on the 30th.

DEPARTURES.

369. Mrs. G. NYKERK left for Abadan on the 25th by air.

RULING FAMILY.

370. Sheikh ABDULLA ~~XXX~~ AS-SALIM left for Failecha Island on the 17th and returned on the 20th.

371. Sheikh ABDULLA MUBARAK went hawking on the 19th and returned on the 22nd. He left for Basra on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

372. Four Egyptian teachers arrived on the 23rd to take up their appointments with the Kuwait Government. Others are expected to leave Egypt by the end of the month.

QATAR.

373. JASIM BIN DARWISH, the personal Secretary of Abdullah bin Qasim bin Thani, Ruler of Qatar, and his brother Abdullah bin Darwish arrived by launch from Qatar on the 27th en route for Mecca.

IRAQI VEHICLES.

374. A Ford Station wagon which was brought here by two Iraqis from Basra for sale was impounded by the Kuwait Government, and arrangements have been made for its return to Iraq through the Political Agency.

THE PILGRIMAGE.

375. Up to the time of writing 340 subjects of the Sheikh of Kuwait have left ~~for~~ for Mecca on camels.

Persian pilgrims without passports have not been allowed to proceed to Mecca, and they are now drifting back to Persia. Saudi lorries which were sent from the Hejaz for pilgrims have so far failed to get passengers. They are expected to return loaded with petrol and Saudi quota goods imported through Kuwait.

No Iraqi pilgrims have yet come to Kuwait; and the impounding of the Iraqi vehicle mentioned in paragraph 374, together with the lack of pilgrims, appears to have deterred would-be smugglers from bringing any more.

THE PEARLING SEASON.

376., Owing to the high cost of fitting out the ships and the difficulty in obtaining ships' gear of all kinds, only a fraction of the pre-war pearling fleet put to sea this season. The diving was further hampered by rough weather early in the season and by the break for the Ramadhan; consequently the catch this year is little over half of last year's. Prices are reported to be between 10 to 15% higher than last year. Only one high quality pearl was found, and it has been valued at Rs.20,000/-. It has not yet been sold.

CALLS/

66
(68)

= 2 =

CALLS.
377. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 16th and 19th.

378. Sheikh ABDULLA MUBARAK called on the Political Agent on the 16th

379. Khan Bahadur MULLAH SALEH called on the Political Agent on the 16th.

380. His Highness called on the Political Agent on the 29th.

381. Sheikh ABDULLA SALIM called on the Political Agent on the 29th and 31st.

SOCIAL.
382. On the 31st the Political Agent gave a dinner party for His Highness to meet the Commander-in-Chief, PAIFORCE.

EXCHANGE.
383.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar........................ | Rs. 13-00-0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)................. | Rs. 63-12-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars................ | Rs. 262-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials........................ | Rs. 138-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.
384.
MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE...........95·0°
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE...........66·2°
HUMIDITY......................67%

SHIPPING.
385. M.V. RESANG of the Singapore Straits Ships Company, arrived here on the 21st. She left for Bushire on the same day.

386. S.S. BARALA of the B.I.S.N.C., Ltd., arrived here on the 22nd and left for Basra on the 23rd. She landed 3969 packages.

387. S.S. BARJORA of the B.I.S.N.C., Ltd., arrived here on the 28th and landed 3890 packages. She left for Basra the same day.

388. M.V. RESANG of the Singapore Straits Ships Company again came here on the 31st.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd November, 1944.

FO. Dmf H.M. Adty. Pisso.

SECRET. No.19 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH OCTOBER, 1944.

5931. 4773.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

336. Commodore J.N. Howson arrived in Kuwait on the 7th and left on the 8th. The Commodore called on His Highness the Ruler and was accompanied by the Political Agent.

337. On the 5th the Political Agent accompanied Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, on a visit to the Amir Haif bin Hajraf of the Suleman section of the Ajman tribe, who are encamped on the Sabahiyah wells.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

338. A party of B.O.R's arrived with two vehicles on the 1st.

339. Ft/Lt/Rowe, H.W. R.A.F. Signals Officer, Shaibah, arrived here on the 30th September and called on the Political Agent on the 1st October.

340. Messrs. C.E. Rooki, L.F. Hooper, R.F. Bartlett, and Mrs. D.J. Wright, arrived here by the A.I.O.C's plane on the 3rd.

341. Lt. D.J. Keerki of H.Q. Movements, arrived here on the 4th.

342. Sqd. Leader C. Furlonger, Station Administrative Officer, Shaibah, and Pilot Officer Ross arrived here on the 10th. They called on the Political Agent the same day.

343. Captain Densley, with a party of B.O.R's arrived here on the 11th and returned the same day.

344. Messrs. G.M. Shaw, Chief Geologist, A.I.O.C., and A.R. Curtice and H.A. Gibbons, American Oil Engineers, arrived here on the 13th from Abadan.

345. Privately.

A party of 12 American Army Officers, Nurses, and civilians visited Kuwait on the 14th and left next day.

DEPARTURES.

346. Messrs. Wright and Rooki left for Abadan on the 4th.
347. Messrs. D.S.D. Fraser and S.G.H. Bukhari returned to Abadan on the 10th.

348. Messrs. L.F. Hooper and G.J. Williams left for Abadan on the 13th.

RULING FAMILY.

349. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failecha Island on the 5th for the week-end. He returned on the 7th.

350. Shaikh Salim Al-Hamood As-Subah, returned to Kuwait on the 12th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

351. Dr. Yahya Al-Hadidi, Syrian, arrived here on the 12th. He has been engaged by the Kuwait Government as Medical Officer.



LOCAL NEWS./

68
(70)



LOCAL NEWS.

352. A fire broke out at mid-day on the 11th in the town. It was extinguished as a result of the prompt action of Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and his followers. There were no casualties and the damage caused was negligible.

353. Three men who were tunnelling for clay were buried alive by the collapse of the entrance of their tunnel. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak went to the spot with a rescue party and with the greatest difficulty managed to save one man; the other two and a donkey were suffocated before they could be dug out.

SOCIAL.

354. The Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., on the 10th.

355. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 7th for His Highness the Ruler to meet Commodore Howson, Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.

CALLS.

356. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 1st to introduce Mr. Haig, the new Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran in Kuwait.

357. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, called on the Political Agent on the 2nd, 7th and 9th.

358. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 3rd, 8th, and 14th.

359. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir, called on the Political Agent on the 7th.

360. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Salim Al-Hamood As-Subah on the 14th.

PUBLICITY.

361. An army touring cinema gave a public show at Shuwaikh on the 10th and 11th. Talking pictures in English and in Hindustani were shown.

EXCHANGE.

362.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar..................... | Rs. 13- 1-0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)............. | " 63-14-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollar............. | " 262-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials..................... | " 137-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

363.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature............ | 100° |
| Minimum -do- ........... | 68° |
| Humidity....................... | 76% |

SHIPPING.

364. S.S. "Wosang" of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company called here on the 7th and landed 312 packages of general cargo for Kuwait.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th October, 1944.

Secret

69
(71)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1944 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| P.A. | Under Secretary... | 16.11 | RA |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 16.xi | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 5030/44.

Ext 5031/44.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summaries Nos 16 & 17.
(August 16th - Sept. 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:

273 & 291. Visit of Oil Mission from Abadan.

278 & 9. Supply of meat during Ramadhan.

280. Fresh water situation critical.

(?) Rodgers
13/11

E & O Secretary [illegible] 15/xi

& see paras. 278 & 9, 288 & 308.

[illegible] 14/11

[illegible] 20/11

[illegible] 22/11

[illegible] 22/11

[illegible] 22 xi

Seen Pol Cttee 23.11.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 17 of 1 9 4 4.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 1ST TO 15TH SEPTEMBER, 1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

289. Reference paragraph 265 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1944.
The Political Agent returned from Shiraz on the afternoon of the 8th.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

290. Captain Cockan with a party of 16 other ranks of 2 Vehicle Assembly Unit arrived on 2nd from Basrah and returned on the 3rd.

291. Reference paragraph 273 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1944.
The following members of the Oil Mission returned to Abadan on the 2nd by the A.I.O.C's plane:-

1. Mr.C.J. Wright,
2. Mr.D.S.D. Fraser,
3. Mr.H. Joseph Kelly,
4. Mr. Ralph Douglas Waterman,
5. Mr. Clinton Herman Hart.

Mr.L.D. Scott, Captain Johnston, and Mr. Peace returned on the 4th.

292. A party of British N.C.O's and 12 drivers arrived from Shaibah on the 9th and returned on the 10th.

293. Messrs. Wright, Kelly, and Scott again came from Abadan on the 8th. Messrs. Wright and Kelly returned to Abadan on the 10th by the Company's plane. Mr. Scott returned on the 12th.

294. Dr.G. Nykerk, M.D. of American Mission Hospital, flew to Abadan by the A.I.O.C's plane on the 8th for dental treatment and returned on the 10th.

295. M.L.F. Hooper, Officer-in-Charge of the meteorological Survey in Kuwait left for Abadan by plane on the 8th and returned on the 12th.

296. Lieut- Baker with one officer and 18 B.O.R's of 2 Vehicle Assembly Unit arrived from Basrah on the 15th.

297. (b) Privately.

Major D.A. Goldfinch, R.E., arrived from Basrah on the 1st and returned on the 4th.

LOCAL NEWS.

298. On the evening of the 3rd an R.A.F. machine bound for Shaibah landed in Kuwait as it could not reach Shaibah that night. In the absence of the Political Agent, the three British Officers of the machine were accommodated by Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., of the Kuwait Oil Company. Food and bedding were provided for the 14 B.O.R's in the plane by Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, Director of Public Security.

299. Two Kuwait subjects were injured and one killed as the result of an accident with one of the Eastern Gulf Oil Company's lorries which took place near Shaiba on the morning of the 9th. The Company paid Rs.1,200/- as compensation to the relatives of the deceased.

300. On the 12th and 13th evenings a military "amenities" touring cinema visited Shuwaikh to give shows for British and Indian personnel of the I.W.T. there. The Indian civil community was invited by the I.W.T. to attend the Indian film on the first evening.

The/

71 (73)



- 2 -

The British and American communities were invited to the second film which was in English.

EASTERN GULF OIL COMPANY.

301. Reference paragraph 281 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1944. Mr. Robert Victor Bartlett, Accountant, and Mr. Hugh Wright, Mining Engineer, arrived by an American Army plane from the United States via Basrah on the 7th.

SOCIAL.

302. The Political Agent dined with His Highness the Ruler on the 12th.

CALLS.

303. His Highness the Ruler called on the Political Agent on the 9th.

304. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and Shaikh Abdullah Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 9th.

305. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 11th and on Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak on the 13th.

EXCHANGE.

| 306. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | Iraqi dinar................. | Rs. 13-00-0 |
| | 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)......... | " 60- 8-0 |
| | 100 | M.T. Silver dollar......... | " 262- 8-0 |
| | 100 | Saudi Rials................ | " 134- 6-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 307. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature............. | 111° |
| | Minimum ---do--- ............. | -- |
| | Humidity......................... | 98% |

SHIPPING.

308. S.S. "Barjora" of the B.I.S.N. Company called on the 9th and discharged 170 packages of general cargo.

G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

September 16th, 1944.

SECRET. No.16 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 16TH TO 31ST AUGUST, 1 9 4 4.

=============

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

264. The Political Agent visited Shuwaikh on the 29th.

265. The Political Agent left for Shiraz on the 31st for discussion with the Hon'ble the Political Resident.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

266. Reference paragraph 243 of Kuwait summary No.15.
Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, and party returned to Abadan by plane on the 17th.

267. Captain Upjohn of 5 L. of C. Workshops with 4 B.O.R. drivers arrived on a training drive from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 20th.

268. Captain E.S.J. McCallin, Welfare Officer of 40 Indian Infantry Brigade, arrived from Basrah on the 22nd and returned on the 23rd.

269. Lieut. Davies with a party of 16 O.R's of 2 Vehicle Assembly Unit arrived from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 20th.

270. Jemadar Venkat of 320 Indian Railway Mechanical Unit with 11 V.C.O's and clerks arrived from Shaibah on the 19th and returned on the 21st.

271. Captain Pearson with 14 B.O.R's arrived from Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 27th.

272. Mr.C.J. Wright, Mr.L.D. Scott, Mr.D.S.D. Fraser, and Captain C.O. Tucker arrived from Abadan on the 21st by the A.I.O.C's plane and returned on the 24th.

273. An oil mission arrived from Abadan by the A.I.O.C's plane on the afternoon of 27th and morning of 28th. It consisted of the following members:-

1. Mr.C.J. Wright.
2. Mr.D.S.D. Fraser.
3. Mr.S.D. Johnson.
4. Mr.H. Joseph Kelly.
5. Mr.Ralph Douglas Waterman.
6. Mr.Clinton Herman Hart.
7. Mr.L.D. Scott.
8. Mr.S.J. Daley.

274. (b) Privately.

Reference paragraph 245 of Kuwait summary No.15.
Senior Sister V. Winlow of 61 British General Hospital, Basrah, returned to Shaibah by R.A.F. machine on the 19th.

275. A party of five airmen arrived from Shaibah on the 26th to spend the week-end in Kuwait.

RULING FAMILY.

276. Reference paragraph 250 of Kuwait summary No.15.
His Highness the Ruler and party returned on the 16th.

277. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 19th and returned on the 27th.

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٧٤ظ] (١٥٠/١٢٦٤)

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS.

278. His Highness has ordered that the import of sheep, goats, and cattle will be exempt from Customs duty during the month of Ramadhan.

279. His Highness has subsidized the price of mutton for the month of Ramadhan so that it may be more easily available to the poor of Kuwait.

Ext 4318/44.

280. Reference paragraph 252 of Kuwait summary No.15. The fresh water situation remains critical. Four gallon tins of fresh water have recently been selling for Re.1/- per tin.

EASTERN GULF OIL COMPANY.

281. Reference paragraph 255 of Kuwait summary No.13. Mr. Grady U. Isbell, an American citizen, arrived from U.S.A. via Abadan on the 22nd.

SOCIAL.

282. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 16th to the minor Shaikhs of the ruling family. Members of the British and American communities were also invited.

283. The Political Agent dined with His Highness the Ruler on the 30th.

CALLS.

284. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 19th and 23rd.

285. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Abdullah Al-Ahmed on the 24th and on Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak on the 24th and 30th.

EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar.............. | Rs. 12-14-6 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)....... | " 64-00-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars...... | " 250-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials.............. | " 141-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 287. | Maximum temperature.......... | 112° |
| | Minimum " .......... | -- |
| | Humidity.................... | 59% |

SHIPPING.

288. S.S. "Barala" of the B.I.S.N. Company called on the 30th and discharged 3209 packages of general cargo.

G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

September 1st, 1944.

Secret

74
(76)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | P.C. Committee | 6.11 | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | Ext 4773/44 |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 18 (Sept. 16th - 30th)

There is nothing of great interest in this Summary.

(M). Rodgers. 3/11.

E&O Secretary 3/xi
See paragraph 335.

3/xi

8/11

8xi

9/11

Seen Pol. Ctte 10.11.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No.18 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1944.

=========

VISITORS. (a) On business.

309. Reference paragraph 296 of Kuwait summary No.17. Lieutenant Baker and party returned to Abadan on the 17th.

310. Messrs D.S.D. Fraser, T.M. Peace, J.G. Williams, and two Indian surveyors arrived from Abadan by the Company's plane on the 21st. Messrs Graser and Peace returned to Abadan by plane on the 23rd.

311. Mr.D.S.D. Fraser arrived by the Company's plane from Abadan on the 27th.

312. Mr.J.H. Taylor arrived by the Company's tug from Abadan on the 27th to relieve Mr.D. Robinson, Resident Engineer of the Kuwait Oil Company, who is shortly proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.

313. Mr. R.W. Haig, arrived from Khorramshahr on the 28th to relieve Mr.E.S. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, who is proceeding on leave to the United Kingdom.

314. Lieutenant Stokes with one Officer and 18 B.O.R's of 2 Vehicle Assembly Unit arrived from Basrah on the 29th.

315. Flight Lieutenant Row, Signals Officer, R.A.F. Shaibah, arrived from Shaibah with furniture and fittings for the R.A.F. Rest House here.

316. On the 23rd an R.A.F. aircraft arrived from Shaibah with a week-end party, who returned on the 24th.

317. A party of B.O.R's arrived from Shaibah on the 23rd and returned on the 25th.

RULING FAMILY.

318. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Failaicha Island on the 16th and returned on the 24th.

319. Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al-Khalifa, ~~uncle~~ uncle of the Ruler of Bahrain, arrived from Cairo by road on the 25th. His son Shaikh Salman arrived here from Bahrain on the 27th to meet him. Both returned to Bahrain by road via Dharan on the 30th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

320. Abdullah Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, left for Palestine on the 20th in order to enter his son in a school there.

LOCAL NEWS.

321. The 'Id was celebrated on the 18th and 19th September and on each day the Political Agent paid calls on some 20 of the leading citizens and Government Officials. On the first day the residents of the west end of the town called on those residing in the east end, and on the second day the latter returned the calls.

The Political Agent was received by His Highness the Shaikh in the town palace at 3.45 p.m.. His Highness later received the Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company/

Company and other leading British and American residents. Later in the afternoon His Highness, the Political Agent and other members of the British and American communities attended the tribal dancing in the public square which is a feature of the 'Id celebrations in Kuwait.

322. On the morning of the 17th a report was received that a party of R.A.F. Officers and men who had left Shaibah for Kuwait by road on the morning of the 16th had not arrived in Kuwait. The R.A.F. in Shaibah were informed and they arranged an aerial search. A search party of cars was also organized in Kuwait by the Political Agent and the Director of Public Security. Happily, however, the missing personnel were found just as the search party was leaving the town.

SOCIAL.

323. The Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdullah Jabir on the 28th.

324. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 29th for His Highness the Ruler, and for his guests Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al-Khalifa of Bahrain and his son.

CALLS.

325. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Abdullah Jabir, the Chief Justice, on the 16th.

326. His Highness the Ruler called on the Political Agent on the 21st.

327. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, Director of Public Security, on the 23rd.

328. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak called on the Political Agent on the 25th.

329. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 27th.

330. Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al-Khalifa accompanied by his son Shaikh Salman called on the Political Agent on the 28th.

331. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir accompanied by Khan Bahadur Mullah Saleh called on the Political Agent on the 28th.

332. The Political Agent called on Shaikh Abdullah Salim on the 28th.

EXCHANGE.

| 333. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | Iraqi dinar............... | Rs. 13- 1-6 |
| | 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)........ | " 65-00-0 |
| | 100 | M.T. Silver dollar........ | " 250-00-0 |
| | 100 | Saudi Rials............... | " 137- 8-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 334. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature....... | 108° |
| | Minimum temperature....... | Not recorded. |
| | Humidity.................. | 65% |

SHIPPING.

335. M.V. RESANG of the Singapore Straits Ship Company Limited called here on the 28th.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

October 2nd, 1944.

Secret

77
(79)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19.44 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 5.10 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 4318/44

Coll 30/45 (2)

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 15 (August 1st - 15th)

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

244. Installation of an aerial lighthouse.

252. Acute shortage of drinking water.

253. Pearl catch disappointing.

255. Arrival of three American drillers and 328 tons of equipment for Eastern Gulf Oil Company.

M. Edgers
7/10

For information

10/10

10/10

10 X

Seen Pol Cttee
12.10.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

323

SECRET.

No.15 of 1944.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH AUGUST, 1944.

VISITORS. (a) On business

238. Dr.S. Sharp, Dentist, A.I.O.C., arrived from Abadan in the Company's plane on the 4th to attend to Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir [illegible]-Subah, Chief Justice. He returned to Abadan on the 8th.

239. Flight Lieut. Rowe, Signals Officer, R.A.F., Shaibah, accompanied by three Officers and three airmen arrived from Shaibah on the 5th and returned on the 6th.

240. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company and Mr.E.L. Browning, Chief Engineer, A.I.O.C., Abadan arrived from Abadan by Company's plane on the 8th and returned on the 11th.

241. Captain F.J. Aitchison, Army Hirings Officer, arrived from Basrah on the 12th and discussed the question of the lease of the R.A.F. Rest House with the Political Agent. He returned on the 13th.

242. Colonel Pennant of the I.W.T. arrived from Basrah on the 12th and returned on the 13th.

243. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, Mr.L.F. Hooper, Meteorologist, and Mr.D.S.D. Fraser, Civil Engineer, A.I.O.C., Abadan arrived by the Company's plane on the 15th.

244. Flight Lieut. Piggott, Flight Lieut. Lawson and three L.A.C's, R.A.F., of Headquarters Middle East arrived from Basrah on the 15th to install an aerial lighthouse in Kuwait to facilitate navigation of their aircraft passing over Kuwait at night. The three L.A.C's remained behind to work the lighthouse.

245. (b) Privately

Senior Sister V. Winlow of 61 British General Hospital, Basrah, arrived by R.A.F. machine on the 12th to spend a week's leave in Kuwait.

RULING FAMILY.

246. Shaikh Ali bin Abdullah bin Isa Al-Khalifa of Bahrein arrived here from Egypt on the 1st and left for Bahrain on the 3rd by launch. He stayed with Shaikh Subah As-Salim, Chief of Police.

247. On the 5th His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his two sons Shaikh Jabir and Shaikh Subah and Dr. Nykerk of the American Mission Hospital went to sea for a fishing trip in His Highness' private yacht. The party returned on the 7th.

248. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, Director of Public Security went on tour in His Highness' yacht on the 10th and returned on the 12th.

249. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 10th and returned on the 12th.

250. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his two sons and Dr. Nykerk again went to sea in his yacht on the 13th.

LOCAL NEWS.

251. On the evenings of 7th and 8th a military 'amenities' touring cinema visited Shuwaikh to show the film 'Tunisian Victory' to the British and Indian personnel of the I.W.T.. The Officer-in-Charge very kindly invited the British and American civil communities and members of the Ruling Family on the 7th. His Highness did not attend as he had only returned from his fishing trip that evening. The film was extremely well received by all who saw it.

252. There has been an acute shortage of drinking water in the town for the last three weeks due to the increased consumption during the hotter/

hotter months and the inadequacy of the fleet of sailing boats which bring the water from the Shatt-Al-Arab. When winds are light, as in August, the time taken to bring water from the Shatt is doubled and the existing fleet cannot keep pace with the town's requirements.

253. The pearling fleet is now returning to Kuwait for the Ramadhan. The catch so far this year has been disappointing owing to the high winds and rough seas in the early part of the season. The cost of fitting out the fleet was also abnormally high.

THE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

254. Reference paragraph 146 of Kuwait Summary No.9 of 1944. Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company returned from Syria on the 14th.

EASTERN GULF OIL COMPANY.

255. Reference paragraph 204 of Kuwait Summary No.13 of 1944. The following American drillers arrived on the 13th from America:-

1. Mr. Robert V. Bertelsman.
2. Mr. Milton H. Smith.
3. Mr. Otha B. Shauman.

S.S. Samnethy arrived from America on 13th with 328 tons of general equipment for the Eastern Gulf Oil Company.

SOCIAL.

256. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak gave a dinner party on the 1st to which the Political Agent and members of British and American communities were invited.

257. Haji Abdul Rahman bin Bahar a leading merchant of Kuwait gave a dinner party to the Political Agent on the 3rd.

258. His Highness the Ruler gave a dinner party to the Political Agent on the 4th.

259. The Political Agent gave a dinner party to His Highness the Ruler on the 12th.

CALLS.

260. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 9th.

EXCHANGE.

261.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar................. | Rs. 12-12-0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign).......... | " 62- 8-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars......... | " 255-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials................. | " 137- 8-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

262.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature......... | 112° |
| Minimum " ......... | 82.5° |
| Humidity..................... | 64% |

SHIPPING.

263.

| NAME OF STEAMER. | NAME OF OWNER. | DATE OF ARRIVAL. | DATE OF DEPARTURE. | NO.OF PKGS LANDED AT KUWAIT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Samnethy. | Strick Ellerman Joint Service. | 13-8-44. | (In port) | 4041 Pkgs. |
| Resang. | The Singapore Straits Ship Co., Ltd. | 14-8-44. | 14-8-44. | 3 " |
| Isamila. | B.I.S.N.Co., Ltd. | 15-8-44. | (In port). | 3277 " |

Sgd.G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

August 16th, 1944.

Secret

(82)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 44 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 18.9 | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 18.ix | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 4007/44

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 14 (July 15th - 31st).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

215. Departure of anti-locust unit.

225. Recovery of stolen military vehicle.

226. Confiscation of cargo of twenty-nine rifles.

228. Resumption of work by I.W.T. contractor.

E & O Secretary 18/9

to see paragraphs 215 & 237.

20 ix

21/9

21/9

Seen Pol. Cttee 26.9.44

10/9

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No.14 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 15TH TO 31ST JULY, 1 9 4 4.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

214. Reference paragraph 194 of Kuwait summary No.13 of 1944. Dr. Bertram and Mr. L.F. Hooper returned to Abadan by the A.I.O.C. plane on the morning of the 17th.

215. On the 19th July Major M.C. Leney camped here for the night with a convoy of 40 vehicles composed of approximately equal numbers of Diesel-engined ten ton and petrol-engined three ton trucks belonging to the Transport Section of Locust Mission 38. The next day the convoy moved on to Basrah bound ultimately for Egypt.

After completing their anti-locust campaign in Saudi Arabia at the end of May, this transport section was employed in carrying 500 tons of cement from Basrah to Kharj, 70 miles south of Riyadh, the site of His Majesty Ibn Saud's summer palace and irrigation project. They were returning to Egypt after completing the transport of the cement. They used approximately 100 vehicles for the task and were employed on it for nearly two months. They travelled to Kharj via Kuwait. On completion of the task sixty of the vehicles used, it is understood, were left behind for His Majesty King Ibn Saud - the transfer of the vehicles having been authorised by G.H.Q., M.E.

216. The Brigade Welfare Officer arrived from Basrah on the 22nd and returned on the 23rd.

217. Seven I.O.Rs under I.W.O. Ramgappa of the N.A.A.F.I. visited Kuwait on the 23rd.

218. Mr. Daving and Mr. Casline of the U.K.C.C. visited Kuwait on the 30th and returned on the 31st.

219. Mr.B.W. Bampfylde, Station Superintendent, B.O.A.C., and a coxswain visited Kuwait on the 30th to inspect the Company's mooring buoys. They returned on the 31st.

220. On the 21st Mr. Emslie, Field Cashier, Shaibah, arrived with Rs.150,000/- in a special aircraft and left the same day.

(b) Privately.

221. Major D.A. Goldfinch, R.E., Major Smith and one B.O.R. arrived from Basrah on the 28th.

222. Dr.C.S.G. Mylrea, O.B.E., of the American Mission, arrived from Basrah on the 28th.

RULING FAMILY.

223. Shaikh Subah Al-Nasir left for Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 22nd.

224. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 20th and returned on the 25th.

LOCAL NEWS.

225. On receipt of information that a stolen Military vehicle was secreted in Kuwait territory South of Safwan, where it was being disguised preparatory to being sold in Nejd, Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, Director of Public Security, raided the village,

- 2 -

village, impounded the lorry, and arrested Abdullah El-Aziz El-Ajil of Zubair who, in partnership with Mohammed Al-Mahimal also of Zubair, bought the lorry near to Zubair from an Iraqi driver employed by the Army. Two other drivers, both of Zubair, were also arrested in the act of painting the lorry. The lorry has been identified and taken over by 40th Indian Infantry Brigade, Basrah.

ARMS TRAFFIC.

226. A cargo of 29 rifles, said to have been purchased in Mahra country by Abdul Majeed bin Abdul Nabi of Qasba and consigned to Qasba in a Mahra Sambook, was confiscated on arrival here in a Kuwaiti craft. The arms were said to have been transferred to the Kuwaiti craft at sea between Jubail and Kuwait under stress of weather.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

227. Mr.D. Robinson, Resident Engineer of Kuwait Oil Company and Mr. Thomas E. Patrick, Chief Representative, Eastern Gulf Oil Company left for Abadan by A.I.O.C's plane on the 29th to confer with the Deputy General Manager of the A.I.O.C.

THE INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

228. Reference paragraph 205 of Kuwait summary No.13.
The cheque in respect of the contractor's bill for May arrived on the 16th and was delivered to him immediately. He resumed work the next day. On the 20th telegraphic intimation was received by the Imperial Bank of Iran here that the contractor's bill for June should be paid immediately against an undertaking to surrender the cheque when received. The contractor was paid on the same day, but his cheque has not yet arrived.
On the 21st a further Rs.150,000/- were deposited with the Imperial Bank of Iran here to cover future payments.

SOCIAL.

229. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 21st to which His Highness the Ruler and others were invited.

230. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir gave a dinner party on the 25th to which His Highness and the British and American communities were invited.

CALLS.

231. His Highness called on the Political Agent on the 20th and the call was returned on the 22nd.

232. Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir called on the Political Agent on the 22nd and Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak called on the Political Agent on the 23rd.

233. The Political Agent took Dr.C.E.Hynes to call on Shaikh Abdullah Al-Jabir on the 24th.

234. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 25th.

EXCHANGE.

235.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi Dinar................. | Rs. 13- 1-0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold Sovereign).......... | Rs. 65- 8-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver Dollars......... | " 250-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials................. | " 144-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

236.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature.... | 116.0° |
| Minimum " .... | 81.6° |
| Humidity.............. | 63% |

SHIPPING.

237. NIL.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

1st August, 1944.

(85)

83

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ext. 186/7 203 | Under Secretary... | 31.8 | RM |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 31 | CK |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext.3589/44
Ext.3590/44

SECRET

SUBJECT:

Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos. 12 and 13 (June 16th to July 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in these summaries are:-

182. The problem of labour shortage.
184. Special landing rates for the Oil Company and Inland Water Transport.
185.& 205. Inland Water Transport. Possibility that barge building contractor may have difficulty in re-employing his men.
186 & 203. Employment by the Koweit Oil Company of an Indian meteorologist from the A.I.O.C. in Abadan.

M. Rodgers. 23/8.

Secretary, E. & O. Department, to see paras. 181, 182, 191 and 213.

26/8.

3/12 ix

6/9

8/9

Seen Pol. Ctee 8.9.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET.

No.13 of 1944.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 1ST TO 15TH JULY, 1 9 4 4.

VISITORS. (a) On business.

192. Wing Commander Gill Murray, D.S.O., Air Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Shaibah, accompanied by Flight-Lt. Mudock and Flying Officer Convoy, arrived by R.A.F. machine on the morning of 1st July. They inspected the R.A.F. Wireless station and also visited the R.A.F. Rest House. They returned to Shaibah in the afternoon.

193. Reference paragraph 180 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1944.
Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C. and party returned to Abadan by the A.I.O.C. plane on the 2nd.

194. Dr. Bertram of the M.E.S.C., Cairo, and Mr.L.F. Hooper of the Engineering Development Department, A.I.O.C., Abadan, arrived from Abadan by the Company's plane on the 13th. Dr. Bertram came to investigate the possibility of using the resources of the Kuwait ship building and fishing industries to increase the supply of fish for Abadan. The former is already fully occupied building barges for the I.W.T. and the latter does not provide a sufficient catch for local needs.

195. On the 15th Flying Officer Monk, R.A.F., Salavage Officer, from Shaibah, passed through Kuwait en route to Hasa to salvage an R.A.F. machine which crashed there on the 7th.

196. (b) Privately.

Lt.Commander William N. Benkart, U.S. Naval Observer, Basrah, and Mr. Gus G. Stratton, the American Vice-Consul in Basrah, accompanied by two British Officers and an Iraqi friend arrived from Basrah on the morning of the 8th. Their Iraqi friend had arranged for them to stay with Abdullah Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness. They called on the Political Agent the same morning and also requested His Highness' Secretary to arrange for them to call on His Highness. His Highness received them on the morning of the 9th and they returned to Basrah the same afternoon.

197. Flight-Lt. Goggin, Mrs. Goggin, and Major Jones visited Kuwait on the 15th.

RULING FAMILY.

198. Shaikh Subah bin Mohammed As-Subah, a second cousin of His Highness died on the 5th July in Zubair, where he had lived for a number of years. Another member of the Ruling Family, Shaikh Abdullah Al-Adhbi As-Subah, who was suffering from tuberculosis, died on the morning of the 12th.

227

199. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 6th and returned on the 11th.

200. Shaikh Salim Al-Hamood As-Subah left for Iran on the 3rd.

LOCAL NEWS.

201. Reference paragraph 75 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.
His Highness the Ruler returned from Bayan to his Dasman Palace on the 4th July.

202. On the 11th and 12th evenings a military "amenities" touring cinema visited Shuwaikh to give shows for British and Indian personnel of the I.W.T. there. The Officer in Charge very kindly invited the Indian civil community to attend the Indian film on the first evening. The British and American communities were invited to the second film which was in English. His Highness and members of the Ruling Family were also invited but were enable to attend because of the death of Shaikh Abdullah Al-Ali Adhbi As-Subah that morning.



KUWAIT CO.

85 (87)

- 2 -

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

203. Reference paragraph 186 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1944.
The Kuwait Oil Company have now secured the services of an Indian meteorologist from the A.I.O.C. in Abadan who has started taking sea water temperatures, wet and dry bulb shade temperatures, anemometer readings, and wind direction observations. He has been provided with a car and a boat and is working under the supervision of Mr.L.F. Hooper, who will pay flying visits from Abadan.

KUWAIT SULPHUR COMPANY.

204. Mr. Thomas E. Patrick, representative of the Kuwait Sulphur Company, arrived from the U.S.A. via Abadan on the 9th.

THE INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

205. On the 4th the barge building contractor was laid off work by the Officer in Charge of the I.W.T. as the latter was fully occupied unloading and sorting out a new consignment of broken down pontoons. When required to re-start work on the 8th the contractor was unable to do so because, not having been paid his bills for May and June and not having secured the interim payments allowed under his contract, he was unable to pay his labour. The facts of the case had repeatedly been represented to the Military authorities by the Political Agent and the Officer in Charge of the I.W.T. here; but, up to the time of writing, the contractor has not been paid, although the cheques are reported to be in the post. So far, six working days have been lost; and, such is the demand for shipwrights for repairing deep sea dhows at this time of year, that it is feared that, having once had to lay off his men, the contractor will have some difficulty in getting them all back again. If such proves to be the case, the rate of progress of the building programme is likely to be adversely effected. It has already been slowed up by certain materials not being available when required.

HEALTH.

206. Reference paragraph 188 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1944.
The fever has somewhat abated but most of the important Offices in the town still have staff absent and work is being held up as a result.

SOCIAL.

207. His Highness gave a dinner party in the Dasman Palace on the 10th to which all the British and American residents and the Officer in Charge of the I.W.T. were invited.

CALLS.

208. The Political Agent, accompanied by Dr.C.E. Hynes the Quarantine Medical Officer, called on His Highness on the 3rd and introduced Dr.Hynes to His Highness.

209. His Highness returned the Political Agent's call on the 5th.

210. The Political Agent also took Dr.C.E. Hynes to call on Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, Director of Public Security, on the 8th.

EXCHANGE.

211.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar.................Rs. | 13-00-6 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign).........." | 66-15-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars........." | 250-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials................." | 159-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

212.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temp................ | 109° |
| Minimum " ................ | 84.6° |
| Humidity................... | 73% |

86 (88)

- 3 -

SHIPPING.

213.

| Name of steamer. | Name of owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of Departure. | No.of pkgs landed. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Heimvard. | Kerr Line. ~~Mackenzian.~~ | 5-7-44. | 12-7-44. | 552 pkgs. | Kuwait. |
| Resang. | Strait S.N. | 12-7-44. | 15-7-44. | Nil. | " |
| Barjora. | B.I.S.N.Co. | 13-7-44. | 14-7-44. | 2253 pkgs. | " |
| Fort Coulonge. | Strick Ellerman Joint Service. | 28-6-44. | 2-7-44. | 444 " | " |

Sgd.G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th July, 1944.

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٨٨ظ] (١٢٦٤/١٧٨)

SECRET.

No.12 of 1944.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 30TH JUNE, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

177. Dr.C.E. Hynes, Agency Surgeon and Quarantine Medical Officer arrived from Muscat on the 23rd and took over charge on the 24th.

VISITORS.

(a) On business.

178. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, arrived from Abadan on the 15th by A.I.O.C's plane and returned on the 18th.

179. Brigadier Rhodes, D.Q.M.G. of GHQ., Baghdad, accompanied by Colonel McCreath, I.E., of the I.W.T., arrived here on the 16th and returned to Iraq on the 17th.

180. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, Mr.L.F. Hooper and Mr.A.E.C. Drake of A.I.O.C. arrived from Abadan on the 28th by the A.I.O.C's plane.

(b) Privately.

Mr.Colman of the Basrah Port Trust accompanied Brigadier Rhodes to Kuwait. He had no ostensible official business.

LOCAL NEWS.

181. Reference paragraph 170 of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1944. The Supply Company have taken over one third of the piece-goods imported into Kuwait during the period under report.

182. LABOUR SHORTAGE.

The semi-skilled labour working for the Inland Water Transport applied for an increase of minimum daily wage rates from Rs.3/4/- to Rs.4/- per diem in the latter end of June, threatening to seek work elsewhere if the demand was not acceded to. The grounds for their demand were that the Kuwait Landing Company and the Water Company were paying Rs.4/- per diem for semi-skilled labour while the A.I.O.C. contractor for sand was paying more for unskilled labour.

This was not untrue.

Examination of the problem revealed that the rise in labour costs was not due so much to the rise in the cost of living as to the increased demand for labour - labour that is not available in the town. In an effort to induce Bedouin to come in and work carrying sand - particularly wearing work -, higher wages had been offered than those earned by town labourers.

A plan for curtailing the demand for labour was examined. The indigenous forms of employment at this time of year are pearling, repairing of deep-sea dhows, fishing, and repairing of houses. Foreign employers of labour are the Kuwait Oil Company, the Inland Water Transport, and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

None of the indigenous forms of employment could be curtailed without seriously upsetting the internal economy of the State, and both [torn]and Water Transport and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company regarded [torn]rk as requiring the highest priority.

So far no solution to the problem has been found and it is [torn]er examination. It is likely to be aggravated in the near [torn]n the Kuwait Sulphur Company start operations.

[torn]he Inland water Transport have sanctioned the payment of [torn]m to semi-skilled coolies and of new rates to artizans [torn] The Kuwait Oil Company have also conceded new wage [torn]ir employees.

[torn]OMPANY.

[torn]Water Company have again undertaken to t[torn] barges [torn]ter Transport from Kuwait to Foa and a [torn]

Fao

THE/

(90)

THE KUWAIT LANDING COMPANY.

184. Reference paragraph 145 of Kuwait summary No.9.
The Kuwait Oil Company and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company have now negotiated separate agreements with the Kuwait Landing Company governing the rates to be charged for landing their materials. The rates thus secured are better than those charged from the Kuwaiti merchants and the Public. Through the influence of His Highness the Shaikh even better rates than those secured by the Oil Companies have been conceded to the Inland Water Transport as part of Kuwait's contribution to the war effort. Indeed, the landing charges for Inland Water Transport material have been reduced from the standard rate of Rs.20/- to Rs.10/- per ton.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

185. Reference paragraph 167 of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1944.
The materials for the construction of the additional barges have now arrived in the s/s FORT-COULONGE.

THE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

186. The Kuwait Oil Company plan to make a meteorological survey of Kuwait Bay and its environs to collect data on which to work when they eventually recommence operations.

187. The Company have completed repairs to the tarmac road leading from His Highness' palace in the direction of the main square of the town. The road was built by them last year. This year they plan to extend it to the main square of the town and have already negotiated the purchase of local bitumen mined last year for Army use but never transported away.

HEALTH.

188. During the past five weeks the people of Kuwait have been abnormally stricken by fevers variously diagnosed as influenza and sand fly fever. Nearly half of the office staff, and the household staff of the Political Agency have either been ill with fever or have been recuperating from it during the period under review, and work has been considerably dislocated in consequence.

EXCHANGE.

189.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar.................... | Rs. 13- 2-6 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign)............ | " 65-12-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars........... | " 250-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials.................... | " 136-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

190.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temp............ | 111° |
| Minimum " ............ | 90.3° |
| Humidity................ | 65% |

SHIPPING.

191.

| Name of Steamer. | Name of owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of Departure. | No.of pkgs landed. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resang. | Strait S/S Co., Ltd. | 22-6-44. | 22-6-44. | 25 pkges. | Kuwait. |
| Wosang. | Indo China S.N. Co., Ltd. | 23-6-44. | 24-6-44. | 835 " | -do- |
| Fort-Coulonge. | Strick Ellerman Joint Service. | 28-6-44. | | 444 " K.D.Barges parts. | -do- |

1st July, 1944.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

- 2 -

THE KUWAIT LANDING COMPANY.

184. Reference paragraph 145 of Kuwait summary No.9. The Kuwait Oil Company and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company have negotiated separate agreements with the Kuwait Landing Company [illegible] the rates to be charged for landing their materials. The rates [illegible] secured are better than those charged from the Kuwaiti merchants [illegible] the Public. Through the influence of His Highness the Shaikh even [illegible] rates than those secured by the Oil Companies have been conceded [illegible] the Inland Water Transport as part of Kuwait's contribution to the [illegible] effort. Indeed, the landing charges for Inland Water Transport material have been reduced from the standard rate of Rs.20/- to Rs.10/- per ton.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

185. Reference paragraph 167 of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1944. The materials for the construction of the additional barges have now arrived in the s/s FORT-COULONGE.

THE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

186. The Kuwait Oil Company plan to make a meteorological survey of Kuwait Bay and its environs to collect data on which to work when they eventually recommence operations.

187. The Company have completed repairs to the tarmac road leading from His Highness' palace in the direction of the main square of the town. The road was built by them last year. This year they plan to extend it to the main square of the town and have already negotiated the purchase of local bitumen mined last year for army use but never transported away.

HEALTH.

188. During the past five weeks the people of Kuwait have been abnormally stricken by fevers variously diagnosed as influenza and sand fly fever. Nearly half of the office staff, and the household staff of the Political Agency have either been ill with fever or have been recuperating from it during the period under review, and work has been considerably dislocated in consequence.

EXCHANGE.

189. 1 Iraqi dinar..................Rs. 13- 2-8
1 £ (Gold sovereign)..........." 65-12-0
100 M.T. Silver dollars..........." 258-00-0
100 Saudi Rials...................." 138-00-0

METEOROLOGICAL.

190. Maximum Temp........... 111°
Minimum " ........... 90.5°
Humidity.............. 65%

SHIPPING.

191.

| Name of Steamer. | Name of owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of Departure. | No.of pkgs landed. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Kasang. | Straits S/S Co., Ltd. | 21-6-44. | 22-6-44. | 25 pkges. | Kuwait. |
| Hosang. | Indo China S.N. Co., Ltd. | 23-6-44. | 24-6-44. | 235 " | -do- |
| Fort-Coulonge. | [illegible] Oilerman Joint Service. | 28-6-44. | | 444 " | [illegible] Forces. -do- |

[illegible]. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

1st July, 1944.

Secret. (91) 89

P.A.

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 44 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 12.7 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 13 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 3097/44

SUBJECT: KOWEIT :- Intelligence Summary No 11 (June 1st - 15th)

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

167. Supplementary contract for assembly of additional 30 barges and pontoons.

170. Proposed rationing of piece goods.

M. Odgers. 12/7

For information

[illegible] 12/7

[illegible] 18/7

[illegible] 19/7/44

[illegible] 19 iii

[illegible] 21/7

Seen Pol Cttee 21.7.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. NO. 11 OF 1 9 4 4.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH JUNE, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

162. Mr. G.N. Jackson, Political Agent designate arrived from India via Basra on the morning of the 6th.

163. Mr. C.J. Pelly, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait handed over charge to Mr. Jackson on the morning of the 10th and proceeded on leave to Basra en route to the United Kingdom on the same day.

VISITORS.

164. Reference paragraph 152 of Kuwait summary No.10 of 1944.

Colonel Hinchcliffe, Commander, 40 Indian Infantry Brigade returned to Basra on the 2nd.

165. Captain Sagat Singh of 40 Indian Infantry Brigade visited Kuwait on the 3rd.

166. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company arrived from Abadan on the 5th by Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane and returned on the 7th.

167. Lt. Col. G.L. Collard arrived from Basra on the 8th to discuss certain outstanding questions with the Political Agent in connection with the barge construction. A supplemantry contract was signed on the 9th between the I.W.T. and Haji Ahmed, contractor, for the assembly of an additional 30 barges and pontoons at Kuwait. Lt. Col. Collard returned to Basra on the 10th.

168. Major Bero and Captains Srinavasan, Roswani, Sayeed Kidwai and Sen visited Kuwait on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

169. Sheikh Abdullah Mubarrak As-Subah, Director of Public Security left for Basra and Abadan on the 8th for dental treatment. He returned on the 12th.

LOCAL NEWS.

170. The Kuwait Government have formed an organisation for taking over a portion of the Kuwait quota of piece goods for rationing at controlled prices.

171. A prize-giving ceremony was held in the Mubarakia School on the 8th under the presidency of Sheikh Abdullah al-Jabir, Head of the Education Department, who presented prizes for proficiency in English and Arabic. The Political Agent also presented the first prize in the B.B.C. poetry competition won by a Kuwaiti student.

PUBLIC OPINION.

172. The fall of Rome and the Allied invasion of Europe caused great excitement here and the public have shown the keenest interest in the progress of operations.

173. KINGS BIRTHDAY

In accordance with instructions the usual reception was not held but the Agency flagstaff was dressed. Flags were flown on all Government buildings.

 EXCHANGE /

SECRET. **NO. 11 OF 1 9 4 4.**

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH JUNE, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

162. Mr. C.M. Jackson, Political Agent designate arrived from India via Basra on the morning of the 6th.

163. Mr. G.J. Pelly, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait handed over charge to Mr. Jackson on the morning of the 10th and proceeded on leave to Basra en route to the United Kingdom on the same day.

VISITORS.

164. Reference paragraph 152 of Kuwait summary No.10 of 1944.

Colonel Hinchcliffe, Commander, 40 Indian Infantry Brigade returned to Basra on the 2nd.

165. Captain Sagat Singh of 40 Indian Infantry Brigade visited Kuwait on the 3rd.

166. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company arrived from Abadan on the 5th by Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane and returned on the 7th.

167. Lt. Col. G.L. Collard arrived from Basra on the 8th to discuss certain outstanding questions with the Political Agent in connection with the barge construction. A supplementary contract was signed on the 9th between the I.W.T. and Haji Ahmed, contractor, for the assembly of an additional 30 barges and pontoons at Kuwait. Lt. Col. Collard returned to Basra on the 10th.

168. Major Baro and Captains Srinavasan, Moswant, Sayeed Kidwai and Sen visited Kuwait on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

169. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarrak As-Subah, Director of Public Security left for Basra and Abadan on the 8th for dental treatment. He returned on the 12th.

LOCAL NEWS.

170. The Kuwait Government have formed an organisation for taking over a portion of the Kuwait quota of piece goods for rationing at controlled prices.

171. A prize-giving ceremony was held in the Mubarakia School on the 8th under the presidency of Shaikh Abdullah al-Jabir, Head of the Education Department, who presented prizes for proficiency in English and Arabic. The Political Agent also presented the first prize in the B.B.C. poetry competition won by a Kuwaiti student.

PUBLIC OPINION.

172. The fall of Rome and the Allied invasion of Europe caused great excitement here and the public have shown the keenest interest in the progress of operations.

173. KINGS BIRTHDAY

In accordance with instructions the usual reception was not held but the Agency flagstaff was dressed. Flags were flown on all Government buildings.

EXCHANGES /

93

91

== 2 ==

EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 174. | 1 Iraqi dinar...............= Rs. | 13-02-0 |
| | 1 £ Gold Sovereign...........= Rs. | 61-12-0 |
| | 100 M.T. Silver dollars........= Rs. | 250-00-0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials...............= Rs. | 167-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 175. | Maximum Temperature...............= | 114.5° |
| | Minimum Temperature...............= | 92.4° |
| | Humidity.........................= | 80% |

SHIPPING

176. N I L

Sd/- G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

June 16th, 1944

Secret

(94)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944. | Initials. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| M.O. Should not the "Wahra" point be cleared up with M.A.P.? RP 4/7 | Under Secretary... | 4.7 | RP |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 5 | LK. |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

M.P. 42

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 2881/44

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 10. (May 16th – 31st).

There is little of interest in this Summary, paragraph 156 reports successful results from poisoning of locust swarms, and paragraph 158 the rejection by the Basra Court of Appeal of the Sheikh's appeal in the Badruja date gardens case.

(M). Odgers. 4/7.

[illegible] 4/7.

[illegible] 11/7.

[illegible] 11/7

[illegible] 11 vii

[illegible] 17/7/44

Seen Pol Cttee 17.7.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No. 10 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST MAY, 1944

1 9 4 4

VISITORS

150. One Officer and a number of British Other Ranks of 7 B.O.D. visited Kuwait on the 20th.

151. Lt.Col. Wilkins, Major May, Captain Addcunson, Lt. Cohen and 20 British Other Ranks visited Kuwait on the 21st.

152. Colonel Hinchcliffe, Commander 40 Indian Infantry Brigade arrived from Basra on the 31st.

SHEIKH ALI BIN THANI OF QATAR.

153. Reference paragraph 141 of Kuwait summary No.9 of 1944. Sheikh Ali Bin Thani son of the Sheikh of Qatar left by sea for Qatar on the morning of the 27th but was obliged to return in the afternoon because of bad weather. He finally left on the evening of 28th.

LOCAL NEWS.

154. The annual school sports were held on the afternoon of the 18th under the patronage of Sheikh Abdullah Al-Jabir, Chief Judge and Head of the Education Department. They were attended by the Political Agent, members of the Ruling family, of theBritish and American communities and many local merchants. The display was a good one. Prizes were distributed by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Jabir.

155. By the courtesy of the Officer Commanding, R.A.F., Shaibah a demonstration of the "Spitfire" machine "Wahra" presented by Kuwait to the R.A.F., was held at the local aerodrome on the morning of the 21st. It was attended by His Highness the Sheikh, minor Sheikhs and a large number of townspeople. The display included aerobatics and the firing of the "Spitfire's" armament from the air. It caused great general interest and particular gratification to His Highness the Sheikh. The R.A.F. Officers including the pilot who arranged the demonstration were entertained to luncheon by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak.

Very odd! "Wahra Koweit" is one of the machines we are still trying to christen!

156. On receipt of reports that two small swarms of hopper locusts had been located in Kuwait territory the Political Agent and Sheikh Abdullah Mubarak visited the areas and superintended the poisoning of the swarms. Results were successful.

157. On the 30th and 31st evenings a military "amenities" touring cinema visited Shuwaikh to give shows for the I.W.T. personnel there. Thanks to the co-operation of the latter and of the Officer accompanying the cinema, the Indian community here were enabled to attend an Indian film and the British, American and Arab to see English films, generally of a propaganda nature. Despite the language difficulty they were greatly appreciated especially by His Highness the Sheikh for whom the Political Agent interpreted during a session of two hours and a half.

158. BASHIYA DATE GARDENS.

The court of Appeal in Basra has rejected the appeal of His Highness the Sheikh in the Bashiya date garden case. This was not unexpected.

159. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi dinar................. | = Rs. | 13-2-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign).......... | = Rs. | 62-0-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver dollars......... | = Rs. | 255-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials................. | = Rs. | 136-8-0 |



160/

96

== 2 ==

160. METEOROLOGICAL.

MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE.................. = 110.5°
MINIMUM TEMPERATURE.................. = 73.1°
HUMIDITY............................. = 69%

161. SHIPPING.

| NAME OF STEAMER. | NAME OF OWNER. | DATE OF ARRIVAL | DATE OF DEPARTURE | NO OF PKGS LANDED | DESTINATION. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| RESANG | Strait S/S Co., Ltd. | 18-5-44 | 19-5-44 | 5 Pkgs | Kuwait |
| ESANG | Indo China S.N.Co., Ltd. | 24-5-44 | 24-5-44 | 32 Pkgs | Kuwait |
| RESANG | Strait S/S Co., Ltd. | 25-5-44 | 27-5-44 | NIL | Kuwait |

Sd/- C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait.
2nd June 1944.

ENVR

Secret

95
(97)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944. | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| PA | Under Secretary... | 22. 6 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 23 | UK. |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 2708/44

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary
No 9
(May 1st - 15th).

There is nothing of outstanding interest in this Summary.

(?) Odgers
21/6.

[illegible]
2/6.

P. 4 in

[illegible] 5/7

[illegible] 6/7

Seen Pol Cttee
6.7.44.

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 9 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH MAY, 1 9 4 4.

VISITORS.

137. Lt. Harry Darling, Entomologist of the M.E.A.L.U. arrived from Saudi Arabia on the 4th and left for Basrah on the 5th.

138. Major Hirschberg the M.E.S.C. Liaison Officer in Basrah arrived here on the 6th. He checked the U.K.C.C. stocks held by Messrs Gray Mackenzie and discussed the supply question with the Political Agent. He returned to Basrah on the 7th.

139. Major J.Cornet, Assistant to the Director General of Road Transport, Iraq, accompanied by two Iraqi officials arrived from Baghdad on the 9th by an Iraqi Military plane. Major Cornet left on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

140. Sheikh Abdullah Salim , C.I.E. visited Failicha Island during the period under review

SHEIKH ALI BIN THANI OF QATAR.

141. Reference paragraph 128 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1944.

Sheikh Ali bin Thani son of the Sheikh of Qatar was discharged from Hospital on the 3rd. He is staying here for a few days.

LOCAL NEWS.

142. Six Indian Other Ranks were seriously injured and one later died as the result of an I.W.T. lorry accident which took place at the Jahra gate on the 2nd. Careless driving seems to have been the cause.

143. A fire broke out on the night of 2nd near the old Agency building. A godown of dates belonging to the Food Control Department was completely burnt.

144. Reference paragraph 130 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1944.

A party of Kuwaities who fled to Iraq during the disturbance of 1939 returned here on the 7th. Members of the Ruling family, the Saudi Arabian Agent and Trade Agent and many leading merchants went to Jahra to welcome them back.

145. On the 15th the Landing Company declared that the rates of their transport charges from steamer to shore or vice versa would be increased from Rs.5/- a ton to Rs.20/- a ton with effect from the 1st of Thulqadah, 1362 corresponding to the 30th October 1942.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

146. Lt-Col H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company proceeded on three months' leave to Syria and Palestine on the 15th.

147. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. | 13-3-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | Rs. | 62-0-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver dollars | Rs. | 255-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. | 136-8-0 |



148. METEOROLOGICAL/

SECRET. No. 9 of 1944. 

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH MAY, 1 9 4 4.



VISITORS.

137. Lt. Harry Darling, Entomologist of the M.E.A.L.U. arrived from Saudi Arabia on the 4th and left for Basrah on the 5th.

138. Major Hirschberg the M.E.S.C. Liaison Officer in Basrah arrived here on the 6th. He checked the U.K.C.C. stocks held by Messrs Gray Mackenzie and discussed the supply question with the Political Agent. He returned to Basrah on the 7th.

139. Major J.Cornet, Assistant to the Director General of Road Transport, Iraq, accompanied by two Iraqi officials arrived from Baghdad on the 9th by an Iraqi Military plane. Major Cornet left on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

140. Sheikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E. visited Failicha Island during the period under review

SHEIKH ALI BIN THANI OF QATAR.

141. Reference paragraph 128 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1944.

Sheikh Ali bin Thani son of the Sheikh of Qatar was discharged from Hospital on the 3rd. He is staying here for a few days.

LOCAL NEWS.

142. Six Indian Other Ranks were seriously injured and one later died as the result of an I.W.T. lorry accident which took place at the Jahra gate on the 2nd. Careless driving seems to have been the cause.

143. A fire broke out on the night of 2nd near the old Agency building. A godown of dates belonging to the Food Control Department was completely burnt.

144. Reference paragraph 130 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1944.

A party of Kuwaities who fled to Iraq during the disturbance of 1939 returned here on the 7th. Members of the Ruling family, the Saudi Arabian Agent and Trade Agent and many leading merchants went to Jahra to welcome them back.

145. On the 15th the Landing Company declared that the rates of their transport charges from steamer to shore or vice versa would be increased from Rs.5/- a ton to Rs.20/- a ton with effect from the 1st of Thulqadah, 1362 corresponding to the 30th October 1942.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

146. Lt-Col H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company proceeded on three months' leave to Syria and Palestine on the 15th.

147. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. | 13-3-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | Rs. | 62-0-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver dollars | Rs. | 255-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. | 136-8-0 |

148. METEOROLOGICAL./

97 (99)

= 2 =

148. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum Temperature.................102°
Minimum Temperature..................71.8°
Humidity.............................72%
Rainfall.............................0.09"

149. SHIPPING.

N I L

Sd. C.J. Pelly,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

ENVR.
May 16th, 1944.

SECRET. No. 9 of 1944. 1 JUN 1944

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH MAY, 1 9 4 4.

VISITORS.

137. Lt. Harry Darling, Entomologist of the M.E.A.I.U. arrived from Saudi Arabia on the 4th and left for Basrah on the 5th.

138. Major Hirschberg the M.E.S.C. Liaison Officer in Basrah arrived here on the 6th. He checked the U.K.C.C. stocks held by Messrs Gray Mackenzie and discussed the supply question with the Political Agent. He returned to Basrah on the 7th.

= 2 =

148. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum Temperature..................102°
Minimum Temperature..................71.8°
Humidity.............................72%
Rainfall.............................0.09"

149. SHIPPING.

N I L

Sd. C.J. Pelly,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

ENVR.
May 16th, 1944.



the 1st of Thulqadah, 1362 corresponding to the 30th October 1943.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

146. Lt-Col H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company proceeded on three months' leave to Syria and Palestine on the 15th.

147. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. | 13-3-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | Rs. | 62-0-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver dollars | Rs. | 255-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. | 136-8-0 |

148. METEOROLOGICAL./

Secret

98 (100)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1944. | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Extract 129-30 | Under Secretary... | 31.5 | [initials] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 1.6 | UK |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 2342/44

Ext 2343/44

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summaries.
Nos 7 & 8.
(April 1944).

The investiture of H.H. the Ruler with the badge and star of the K.C.S.I. on April 16th, and the release of the political prisoners on April 24th, have prompted the Political Agent to some interesting reflections on the relations between the Ruler and his people (paragraphs 129 & 130).

Other paragraphs of interest are:-

113 Visit of Lebanese official delegation to

Seen Pol Cttee 9.6.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

Riyadh.

132. Rising prices.

(M). Rodgers
26/5.

E.&O. Secretary [initials] 31/5
to see paragraphs 119, 132 & 136.

Refuse paras 129-30.
It is satisfactory that the Shaikh has so far consolidated his position over the last few years & that his relations with the British political authorities appear to be so good.
[initials]
26/5.

SECRET. No. 8 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 30TH APRIL, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

120. Reference paragraph 107 of Kuwait summary No.7.

The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf proceeded to Abadan on the 18th en route to Bushire by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane.

121. The Political Agent went to Fantas on the 27th and returned on the 30th.

VISITORS.

122. Mr.F.J. Wakelin, Educational Adviser to the Kuwait Government arrived from Bahrain on the 13th on his half yearly visit and returned to Bahrain on the 26th.

123. Commodore J.M. Howson, C.B.E., R.N., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf accompanied by his Secretary Lieutenant Commander J.F. Stoy, R.N., arrived by air on the 16th to attend the investiture of His Highness the Shaikh with the K.C.S.I. He returned to Basrah on the 17th.

124. Mr.J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived from Abadan by plane on the 16th to attend the investiture and returned to Abadan on the 19th.

125. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., arrived from Abadan on the 25th by Company's plane and returned on the 27th.

126. A party consisting of four R.A.F. Officers and twenty five airmen arrived from Shaibah on a recreational visit on the 28th April and returned on the 29th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

127. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, Director of Finance and Controller of Food Supplies left for Iraq and Syria on the 25th.

128. Shaikh Ali bin Thani son of the Shaikh of Qatar arrived on the 17th, and called on the Political Agent on the 18th. He came here with a view to undergoing an operation for haemorrhoids. He was admitted into the American Mission Hospital and was operated upon successfully. His Highness, many members of the Ruling family and leading merchants visited him in the Hospital.

LOCAL NEWS.

129. Reference paragraph 115 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1944.

A Darbar was held on the 16th at 4 p.m. in the Town Palace of His Highness the Ruler by the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf for the investiture of His Highness with the badge and Star of the K.C.S.I. Due to very limited accommodation in the Darbar Room only 120 persons could be invited but over one thousand uninvited both men and women attended the function in the courtyard of the Palace. The Political Resident, the Senior Naval Officer and his Secretary arrived at 4.25 and were received by His Highness the Shaikh, the Political Agent and Shaikh Abdulla As-Salim, C.I.E.

As soon as the Hon'ble the Political Resident and His Highness the Shaikh were seated a short extract from the Kuran was

read/

read after which the Hon'ble the Political Resident invested the Shaikh with the badge and Star of the K.C.S.I. and delivered his address. His Highness then replied. Arrangements were made by Cable and Wireless Limited to broadcast the speeches through their Wireless station in Kuwait and reception was good and much appreciated. After the ceremony all those present and great numbers of the townsfolk attended an "Ardha" or war dance in the town square.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident's address considered in conjunction with the obvious closeness and cordiality of his relations with the Shaikh left no room for doubt, even in Arab minds, that His Majesty's Government had conferred this most recent honour on His Highness in recognition of his loyalty during the last few critical years. The Hon'ble the Political Resident and His Majesty's local representatives have also in recent years made it abundantly clear that they regard the Shaikh of Kuwait as the sole source of authority within his State, thus correcting the almost disastrous impression allowed to gain prevalence at an unfortunate period of local history. The remarkable demonstrations of loyalty by the people of Kuwait to their ruler on the occassion of this investiture established conclusively that this impression has been dissipated. The real friends of the Shaikh were genuinely pleased; the waverers came over to him en masse finally convinced that they could safely give their allegiance to one who so clearly had the support of one of the leaders of the winning Allied side; the opposition party were confounded. It would be folly to prophesy in a place where the public mind merits a Hitlerian contempt for its fickleness. But it is safe to say that the solid loyal element in Kuwait, led by the Shaikh, has received an access of strength which only far greater folly can damage.

130. The foregoing reflections provide most of the commentary on the events of the 24th April when the Shaikh proclaimed an amnesty for the political prisoners who led the agitation against him in 1939 and have been in prison since that year. This was followed by an order allowing those who fled to Iraq during the disturbance to return to Kuwait, with the exception however of three men, Abdulla al Hamad As Sagir, Rashid Abdul Ghafoor and Mohammad al Barrak. The release of the prisoners was carried out with "blitz" like suddeness on the night of the 24th April and it was not until the next morning that the general public realised what had happened. Amongst the supporters of the Shaikh there was criticism of his action at first which gradually crystallised into a recognition of its sagacity in demonstrating that he alone without outside interference, is master in his State and holds in this case the power of imprisonment and release as a matter of grace. This was only made possible by the fact that the political authorities have resisted all suggestions that they should interfere in the matter of the prisoners and have made no secret of the fact that it was regarded as a question for the Shaikh alone. His opponents, fortunately without any result of importance, did all in their power to defeat this attitude by falsely representing the release of the prisoners as being done under the orders of the British Government in whose hands they contemptuosly referred to the Shaikh as an "Ala" or tool. Another welcome aspect of the matter is that the prisoners were a focal point for disaffection which has now been removed.

131. The reported news of a fire on an American liner in dock in Bombay caused great anxiety to Kuwaities whose relatives are in Bombay. It was confirmed after two days that the fire was confined to the dockyard area only and caused no casualties to civilians living in the town.

132. Prices of tea, cotton piece-goods and other essential commodities are increasing rapidly.

133. CALLS.

The Political Agent called on His Highness at Bayan during the/

the period under review.

134. EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi dinar | Rs. | 13-0-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | " | 63-0-0 |
| 100 M.T. Silver dollars | " | 255-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | " | 136-8-0 |

135. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 102° |
| Minimum " | 66° |
| Humidity | 75% |
| Rainfall | 0.18" |

136. SHIPPING.

M.V. Resang called at Kuwait on the 26th April and landed 44 packages of general cargo.

Sgd.C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

May 2nd 1944.

SECRET.

No. 7 of 1944.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th April, 1944.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

106. The Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basrah on the morning of the 7th and returned on the 9th.

107. The Hon'ble Sir Geoffrey Prior, K.C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf accompanied by his Under Secretary and staff arrived here from Bahrain on the morning of the 13th by H.T. "Barjora". Soon after his arrival at the Agency His Highness called on the Hon'ble the Political Resident who returned the call on the same morning.

VISITORS.

108. Captain Upjohn of No. 5 L.O.C. Workshop, Basrah arrived on the 1st and returned on the 2nd.

109. Lt-Colonel Sher Mohammed and six officers visited Kuwait on the 2nd.

110. Lt-Colonel Cameron Crosbie, Lt-Col. Panalick and Mr. Cousins of Y.M.C.A. visited Kuwait on the 6th.

111. Lt. Sex, Field Security Officer of 40 Indian Infantry Brigade arrived at Kuwait on the 11th and returned to Basrah on the 12th April.

112. Reference para. 94 of Kuwait summary No. 6 of 1944.

Major C.W.Roberts, R.A.S.C. of the British Legation, Jedda left for Basrah on the 1st April. He returned from there on the 4th and left for Jedda on the 6th.

113. The Lebanese official delegation, headed by Reyadh Beq al Sulh, Prime Minister arrived at Kuwait en route to Saudi Arabia on the 7th. It is reported that the delegation is going to Riyadh at the invitation of His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Bin Saud to discuss the question of Arab Unity. The delegation stayed one night in Kuwait and resumed their journey on the next day. They called on His Highness . They returned from Riyadh on the 14th, and on the same day Reyadh Beq al Sulh and others had lunch with the Shaikh. He stated that he was much impressed by the results of his visit which was crowned by the recognition of the independence of the Lebanon by King Ibn Saud. They left for Basra on the same evening.

114. Reference para. 66 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1944.

Major Frank Holmes returned to England via Basrah on the 14th.

LOCAL NEWS.

115. Preparations for the investiture of H.H. the Shaikh with the K.C.S.I. by the Hon'ble the Political Resident are being made in the Town Palace where the ceremony will be performed. Its prospect has caused much interest and generally pleased anticipation.



116. His Highness gave a dinner party in honour of the Hon'ble the Political Resident on the 14th.

/ EXCHANGE.

103
105



EXCHANGE.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 117. | 1 Iraqi dinar | - Rs. 13-1-0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | Rs. 63-4-0 |
| | 100 M.T. Silver dollars | Rs.265-0-0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.137-8-0. |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 118. | Maximum temperature | 87.5° |
| | Minimum temperature | 55.2° |
| | Humidity | 70% |
| | Rainfall | NIL. |

SHIPPING.

119. H.T. Barjora called at Kuwait on the 13th April, but did not land any cargo.

Sd. C.J.PELLY, I.C.S.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

April 19th, 1944.

Secret.

104
(106)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 44. | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 21.4 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 22 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext 1717/44.

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 6. (March 16th - 31st).

There is nothing of great interest in this Summary.

On 31st March an agreement was signed between the Inland Water Transport and a Koweiti contractor for the assembly of barges and pontoons.

(?). Odgers. 20/4.

[illegible] 16/4.

[illegible] 26/4.

[illegible] 3.V.

[illegible]

Seen Pol Cttee 3.5.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No.6 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST MARCH, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

83. The Political Agent accompanied by Mr. W.L.C. Knight, His Majesty's Consul-General, Basrah, Mrs. Knight and the Hon'ble Neil Hogg, 2nd Secretary, His Majesty's Embassy, Baghdad, visited Fantas on the 27th.

VISITORS.

84. Reference paragraph No.65 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.

Khan Bahadur Saiyid Abdur Razzaq, left for Zubair on the 16th

85. Reference paragraph 68 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.

Mr.E.P. Wiltshire, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Basrah returned to Basrah on the 17th.

86. Commodore J.M. Howson, C.B.E., R.N., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf accompanied by his Secretary Lt-Commander J.F. Stoy, R.N. arrived by air on the 18th. He was met by the Political Agent at the aerodrome.

Commodore Howson and Lt-Commander Stoy accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler at 4 p.m.

On the 18th His Highness gave an Arab dinner party at Bayan palace in honour of Commodore Howson to which members of the British community were invited.

His Highness returned the call of the Senior Naval Officer at the Agency on the morning of the 19th. The Senior Naval Officer and his Secretary left for Basrah by air on the 19th.

87. On the 23rd Dr.L.R. Scudder, M.D. of the American Mission Hospital proceeded on long leave to the U.S.A.

88. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 23rd and returned on the 27th.

89. Mr.J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 24th and returned on the 27th.

90. Captain Upjohn of No.5 L.O.C. Workshop, Basrah visited Kuwait on the 25th.

91. Captain L.C. Dugdale of HQ Movements, Shaibah arrived from Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 26th.

92. Mr.F.H. Johnson of the Imperial Bank of Iran arrived from Khorramshahr on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

93. Mr.W.L.C. Knight, His Majesty's Consul-General, Basrah and party arrived from Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

94. Major C.W. Roberts, R.A.S.C., of the British Legation, Jedda arrived from Riyadh on the 29th.

95. Colonel Pennant ~~Lothian~~ and Lt-Col. G. Collard of I.W.T. Basrah arrived here on the 30th and returned on the 31st.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

96. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E. went to Failaicha Island on the 23rd and returned on the 30th.

LOCAL NEWS./

SECRET. No.6 of 1944. FILE COPY

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST MARCH, 1 9 4 4.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

83. The Political Agent accompanied by Mr. T.C. Knight, His Majesty's Consul-General, Basrah, Mrs. Knight and the Hon'ble Neill Hodge, 2nd Secretary, His Majesty's Embassy, Baghdad, visited Fantas on the 27th.

VISITORS.

84. Reference paragraph No.65 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.

Khan Bahadur Saiyid Abdur Razzaq, left for Zubair on the 18th

85. Reference paragraph 68 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.

Mr. A.P. Wiltshire, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Basrah returned to Basrah on the 17th.

86. Commodore J.M. Howson, C.B.E., R.N., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf accompanied by his Secretary Lt-Commander J.T. Stoy, R. arrived by air on the 18th. He was met by the Political Agent at the aerodrome.

Commodore Howson and Lt-Commander Stoy accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler at 4 p.m.

On the 18th His Highness gave an Arab dinner party at Bayan palace in honour of Commodore Howson to which members of the British community were invited.

His Highness returned the call of the Senior Naval Officer at the Agency on the morning of the 19th. The Senior Naval Officer and his Secretary left for Basrah by air on the 19th.

87. On the 23rd Dr.L.R. Scudder, M.D. of the American Mission Hospital proceeded on long leave to the U.S.A.

88. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 23rd and returned on the 27th.

89. Mr.J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 24th and returned on the 27th.

90. Captain Upjohn of No.5 I.O.C. Workshop, Basrah visited Kuwait on the 25th.

91. Captain L.C. Dugdale of HQ Movements, Shaibah arrived from Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 26th.

92. Mr.F.H. Johnson of the Imperial Bank of Iran arrived from Khorramshahr on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

93. Mr.T.C. Knight, His Majesty's Consul-General, Basrah and party arrived from Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

94. Major G.H. Roberts, R.A.S.C., of the British Legation, Jedda arrived from Riyadh on the 29th.

95. Colonel Penn ~~Hopkins~~ and Lt-Col. G. Collard of I.W.T. Basrah arrived here on the 30th and returned on the 31st.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

96. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E. went to Failaicha Island on the 23rd and returned on the 30th.

LOCAL NEWS./

106
(108)

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS.

97. Kuwait experienced a very strong dust storm on the evening of the 28th which was followed by a North wind for about four days. No damage of any kind inside the town was reported.

98. The quidnuncs of Kuwait have had their appetite for rumour almost satisfied by speculation on the likelihood of new oil development in the Arab lands. No supposition is too extravagant for entertainment.

99. On the morning of the 19th a Kuwaiti stabbed a woman in the street. She was seriously wounded and removed to the Mission Hospital. The culprit went to his house and locked himself inside and the incident was reported to the Public Security Director who sent policemen to arrest the man. He first refused to surrender and then attempted to attack the police with his dagger. They fired at him in self defence and he died immediately. He is said to have been mad.

SOCIAL.

100. The Political Agent gave a dinner party in honour of Mr.J.A. Jameson, C.B.E. on the 24th to which His Highness and the British community were invited.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

101. On the morning of the 30th information was received from the desert that an R.A.F. aeroplane had crash landed near Arafjan. The Political Agent accompanied by Shaikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak, Director of Public Security went at once to Arafjan and brought in the crew of the machine, who were flown to Shaibah. None of them were hurt though their aeroplane - a Blenheim - was a "write-off". The pilot "Pranged" it after losing his way from Bushire to Shaibah in the storm on the 28th.

Arrangements have been made by His Highness to guard the machine until the R.A.F. send a salvage party.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

102. Reference paragraph 79 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1944.

An agreement was signed on the 31st March between the Inland Water Transport and Haji Ahmad, a Kuwaiti contractor for assembling W.D. barges and pantoons.

EXCHANGE.

| 103. | Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs. 13- 4-6 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | = | " 68-00-0 |
| | 100 M.T. Silver dollars | = | " 272-00-0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | = | " 137-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 104. | Maximum temperature | = | 84° |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | = | 67° |
| | Humidity | = | 94% |
| | Rainfall | = | 0.01" |

SHIPPING.

105. No steamer called at this port during the period under report.

Sgd.C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd April, 1944.

Secret

157
(109)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944. | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 21.4 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 24 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 1622/44.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT :- Intelligence Summary No 5.
(March 1st – 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

69. Visit of the United States Minister Bagdad.

73. Telegraph line from Koweit to Basra opened with effect from March 1st.

74. Tea ration.

79. Barge assembly for the Inland Water Transport.

(M) Odgers. 14/4.

Secretary E&O Dept. [initials] 21/4

See paras 74 & 82. [initials] 18/4.

[initials] 26/4.

Seen Pol Cttee 3.5.44



(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No.5 of 1944
KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March, 1944.

----



BRITISH OFFICIALS

58. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 10th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

59. Reference paragraph 44 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Mr.E.S.Matheson returned from Iraq on the 1st and resumed his duties on the 2nd. Mr.C.H.Goodby returned to Basra on the 3rd.

VISITORS.

60. Reference paragraph 48 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Dr.L.R.Scudder,M.D. of American Mission Hospital returned by A.I.O.C. plane on the 2nd.

61. Reference paragraph 49 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Mr.De Jong of the American Mission returned from Basra on the 2nd.

62. Messrs Dobson and Shelldrake of A.I.O.C. Abadan arrived by air from Abadan on the 2nd and returned on the same day,

63. Mr.Foster, an electrical engineer of the A.I.O.C. arrived on the 2nd at the request of the Kuwait Electric Company to inspect the electric plant here and to give technical advice to the Company. He returned to Abadan on the 6th.

64. The Syrian delegration, headed by Jameel Mardm Beq, Foreign Minister, arrived here on 2nd March, on their way to Riyadh for discussions in connection with Arab unity. The delegation consisted of Jamel Mardm Beq, President, Khalid Beq Athm Fakhry Beq al Baroodi, Suphy Beq al Athm, a few clerks and two officers of the Syrian Public Security Department. The party were met by Abdul Aziz al Nafid, the Saudi agent here and left Kuwait within an hour after their arrival.

65. Khan Bahadur Saiyid Abdur Razzaq, Residency Agent, Sharjah, arrived from Sharjah on leave on the 3rd.

66. Major Frank Holmes, His Highness's official Representative with the Kuwait Oil Company in London arrived here from England on the 12th.

67. Mr.Luard, Mr.Stevens and Major Bryant arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 6th and returned on the 8th.

68. Mr.E.P. Wiltshire, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Basra accompanied by his wife arrived here on the 10th.

69. Mr.Loy Henderson, U.S.A.Minister, Baghdad, accompanied by Mr. C.P.Fletcher, American Consul Basra arrived by the NEARCHUS on the 12th. They were met by the Political Agent on board the ship and were brought in the Agency launch to the Agency where they stayed. They met the American community in Kuwait at dinner on the evening of their arrival. The Minister and the Consul accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 13th. On the same evening His Highness dined at the Agency.
The Minister and Consul visited the K.O.C. oil fields on the 14th. They left for Bahrain on the 15th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

70. Shaikh Abdullah Salim,C.I.E., accompanied by Shaikh Fahad as Salim and Shaikh Abdullah al Khalifa left for Failaicha Island on

the.........

SECRET

No.6 of 1944

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March, 1944.

----

BRITISH OFFICIALS

58. The Political Agent visited Fahaia on the 10th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

59. Reference paragraph 44 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Mr.R.S.Mathieson returned from Iraq on the 1st and resumed his duties on the 2nd. Mr.C.H.Goodby returned to Basra on the 3rd.

VISITORS

60. Reference paragraph 48 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Dr.L.R.Scudder,M.D. of American Mission Hospital returned by A.I.O.C. plane on the 2nd.

61. Reference paragraph 49 of Kuwait summary No.4.
Mr.De Jong of the American Mission returned from Basra on the 2nd.

62. Messrs Dobson and Sheldrake of A.I.O.C. Abadan arrived by air from Abadan on the 2nd and returned on the same day.

63. Mr.Foster, an electrical engineer of the A.I.O.C. arrived on the 2nd at the request of the Kuwait Electric Company to inspect the electric plant here and to give technical advice to the Company. He returned to Abadan on the 6th.

64. The Syrian delegation, headed by Jameel Mardam Bey, Foreign Minister, arrived here on 2nd March, on their way to Riyadh for discussions in connection with Arab unity. The delegation consisted of Jamel Mardam Bey, President, Khalid Bey Azma Nasury Bey al Bakri, Subhi Bey al Atma, a few clerks and two officers of the Syrian Public Security Department. The party were met by Abdul Aziz al Nafisi, the Saudi agent here and left Kuwait within an hour after their arrival.

65. Khan Bahadur Saiyid Abdur Razzaq, Residency Agent, Sharjah, arrived from Sharjah on leave on the 3rd.

66. Major Frank Holmes, His Highness's official Representative with the Kuwait Oil Company in London arrived here from England on the 12th.

67. Mr.Inard, Mr.Stevens and Major Bryant arrived by A.I.O.C. plane from Abadan on the 6th and returned on the 8th.

68. Mr.E.P. Wiltshire, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Basra accompanied by his wife arrived here on the 10th.

69. Mr.Loy Henderson, U.S.A.Minister, Baghdad, accompanied by Mr. O.P.Fletcher, American Consul Basra arrived by the steamer on the 12th. They were met by the Political Agent on board the ship and were brought in the Agency launch to the Agency where they stayed. They met the American community in Kuwait at dinner on the evening of their arrival. The Minister and the Consul accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 13th. On the same evening His Highness dined at the Agency.
The Minister and Consul visited the K.O.C. oil fields on the 14th. They left for Bahrain on the 15th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

70. Shaikh Abdullah Salim,C.I.E., accompanied by Shaikh Fahad as Salim and Shaikh Abdullah al Khalifa left for Jaliaiba [illegible] on

the........

- 2 -

1st and returned on the 10th.

71. Shaikh Abdullah al-Mubarak went on a hawking tour on the 9th and returned on the 10th.

72. His Highness the Ruler went for a hawking tour on the morning of 14th and returned the same evening.

LOCAL NEWS

73. Reference paragraph 383 of Kuwait Summary No.24 of 1943.
The telegraph line Kuwait to Basra was opened for traffic with effect from the 1st March. The telegram charges are annas 6 a word for ordinary telegrams to Iraq and double that amount for express messages.

74. The Rationing Committee have commenced to issue tea in addition to flour and sugar, at 3 ounces per month per head at a controlled price.

75. On the 5th His Highness the Ruler moved to his Spring house called "Bayan" about five miles from the town where he will stay for about 2 months.

CALLS

76. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 4th and the call was returned during the period under review.

SOCIAL

77. The Political Agent gave an Arab dinner party on the 6th to which members of the Ruling family and notables were invited.

78. MILITARY.

One training convoy consisting of ten vehicles arrived here from Basra on the 10th and returned on the 14th.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

79. Six barges have been assembled by Haji Ahmad, contractor, as samples of his work. They were ordered by the I.W.T. in order to obtain an estimate of the cost of assembling each type of barge. The contractor has made an offer of assembly of all the barges required; it is under consideration by the military authorities.

EXCHANGE

80.
1 Iraqi dinar = Rs. 13-8-0
1 £(Gold sovereign) = Rs. 66-0-0
100 M.T.Silver dollars= Rs.272-0-0
100 Saudi Rials = Rs.150-0-0

METEOROLOGICAL

81.
Maximum temperature - 84° (11th March)
Minimum " - 36° (1st March)
Humidity - 89% (12th March)
Rainfall - 0.09"

SHIPPING

82. S.S."BARALA" called at Kuwait on the 3rd March and ~~and~~ landed 64 packages of general cargo.

Sd. C.J.Pelly,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th March 1944.

Secret

110
(112)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 44 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dist[n] | Under Secretary... | 11.4 | RP | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 11 | OC | |
| Pa | Under Secretary... | | | Ext 1484/44 |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 4 (February 16th - 29th).

---

There is nothing of outstanding interest in this Summary.

M. Dalgens.
7/4.

[illegible] 11/4.

[illegible] 13/4.

[illegible] 14/4/44

18W

Seen Pol Cttee 18.4.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. INDEXED                No.4 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 29TH FEBRUARY,1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

43. Mr.C.J. Pelly, O.B.E., I.C.S., Political Agent, left for Umm Qasr on the morning of the 26th and returned on the 27th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

44. Mr.C.H. Goodby arrived from Basrah on the 16th and relieved Mr.E. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran who proceeded on short leave to Basrah and Baghdad.

45. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company accompanied by Mr. Bryant and Captains Ingus and Bain arrived by air from Abadan on the 20th. The party returned the same day. Mr.Scott returned on the 23rd.

VISITORS.

46. Major Tucker of the 40 Indian Infantry Brigade visited Kuwait on the 18th on a liaison tour and returned on the 19th.

47. Mr.F.L. Thornton, Divisional Manager, Cable and Wireless, Karachi and Mr.C.G. Gott, Liaison Officer, Cable and Wireless, Margil, Basrah arrived from Basrah on the 18th to inspect the telephone lines and Cable and Wireless communications. They returned on the 19th.

48. Dr.L.R. Scudder, M.D., Medical Officer-in-Charge, American Mission Hospital left for Abadan by the A.I.O.C. plane on the 23rd.

49. Colonel Botting and Major Hine arrived from Basrah on the 28th and returned on the 29th.

50. Mr.De Jong of the American Mission, Kuwait left for Basrah on the 29th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

51. Shaikh Subah As-Salim, Chief of Police, left for hawking on the 17th and returned on the 18th.

LOCAL NEWS.

52. The anniversary of the accession of Shaikh Sir Ahmed al Jabir As-Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., was celebrated on the 23rd. The Political Agent, Members of the Ruling family, notables and leading merchants called on the Shaikh. The Boy Scouts of the local schools gave a display at the Town palace.

PILGRIMS.

53. About six hundred Iranian pilgrims have returned from the Haj. They were supplied transport by the Saudi Government when their lorries broke down in the desert.

SAUDI OFFICIALS.

54. Reference paragraph 33 of Kuwait summary No.3 of 1944.

Shaikh Hafith Wahba, Saudi Arabian Minister returned to Riyadh on the 17th.

EXCHANGE.

| 55. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar | = | Rs. 13- 7-3 |
| 1 | £(Gold sovereign) | = | " 66-10-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver Dollars | = | " 272-00-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials | = | " 162-00-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL./

SECRET. INDEXED No.4 of 1944.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 29TH FEBRUARY,1944.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

43. Mr.C.J. Pelly, O.B.E., I.C.S., Political Agent, left for Umm Qasr on the morning of the 26th and returned on the 27th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

44. Mr.C.H. Goodby arrived from Basrah on the 16th and relieved Mr.E. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran who proceeded on short leave to Basrah and Baghdad.

45. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company accompanied by Mr. Bryant and Captains Ingus and Bain arrived by air from Abadan on the 20th. The party returned the same day. Mr.Scott returned on the 23rd.

VISITORS.

46. Major Tucker of the 40 Indian Infantry Brigade visited Kuwait on the 18th on a liaison tour and returned on the 19th.

47. Mr.F.L. Thornton, Divisional Manager, Cable and Wireless, Karachi and Mr.G.G. Gott, Liaison Officer, Cable and Wireless, Margil, Basrah arrived from Basrah on the 18th to inspect the telephone lines and Cable and Wireless communications. They returned on the 19th.

48. Dr.L.R. Scudder, M.D., Medical Officer-in-Charge, American Mission Hospital left for Abadan by the A.I.O.C. plane on the 23rd.

49. Colonel Botting and Major Hine arrived from Basrah on the 28th and returned on the 29th.

50. Mr.De Jong of the American Mission, Kuwait left for Basrah on the 29th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

51. Shaikh Subah as-Salim, Chief of Police, left for hawking on the 17th and returned on the 19th.

LOCAL NEWS.

52. The anniversary of the accession of Shaikh Sir Ahmad al Jabir As-Subah, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., was celebrated on the 23rd. The Political Agent, Members of the Ruling family, notables and leading merchants called on the Shaikh. The Boy Scouts of the local schools gave a display at the Town palace.

PILGRIMS.

53. About six hundred Iranian pilgrims have returned from the Haj. They were supplied transport by the Saudi Government when their lorries broke down in the desert.

SAUDI OFFICIALS.

54. Reference paragraph 33 of Kuwait summary No.3 of 1944.

Shaikh Hafidh Wahba, Saudi Arabian Minister returned to Riyadh on the 17th.

EXCHANGE.

55. 1 Iraqi dinar = Rs. 13- 7-3
1 £(Gold sovereign) = " 66-10-0
100 M.T. Silver Dollars = " 272-00-0
100 Saudi Rials = " 152-00-0

METEOROLOGICAL.

112 (114)

- 2 -

METEOROLOGICAL.

56. Maximum temperature = 76°
Minimum " = 45°
Humidity = 76%
Rainfall Nil.

SHIPPING LIST for the period 16th to 29th February, 1944.
(Port of Kuwait)

57.

| Name & nationality of vessel. | Owners. | Arrival. | Departure. | No.of packages landed at Kuwait. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MV"Resang" Br. | Straits Steamship Company. | 17-2-44. | 19-2-44. | Nil. |
| MV"Resang" Br. | ----do------- | 27-2-44. | 28-2-44. | Nil. |

Sgd. C.J. Pelly,
POLITICAL AGENT, KUWAIT.

March 2nd, 1944.

SECRET. (115)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1944 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Regy. copy to 70/041 | Under Secretary... | 13-3 | | Ext.992/44. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 13 | CK | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT:

Koweit Intelligence Summary No.3 - February 1st to 15th.

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

Para.26. Visit of C in C, Paiforce.

Para.33. Visit of Saudi Arabian Minister in London.

Para.36. Punishment of Koweitis who had been intriguing against the Egyptian Director of Education and his staff.

Para.37. Alans fixing taxi hires and for registration of stocks of tea and cotton piece goods held by merchants.

Para.42. 36,346 bags of wheat for Koweit discharged on 8th February

M. Edgers. 7/2.

Secretary E & O Dept. to see paras.37 & 42.

E & O. 1893 1944

See Pol. Cttee 18.3.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No.3 of 1944.
KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period
from 1st to 15th February 1944

...



VISITORS

26. Major General Selby, C.in C.,Paiforce, accompanied by his Personal Assistant Major ~~Holman~~, two BORs and two IORs arrived from Basra on the afternoon of the 6th and stayed at the Agency. On the morning of the 7th Major General Selby and the Political Agent visited the barge assembly project at Shuwaikh and called on Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak, Director of Public Security and Governor of the Town. They also visited the Town Palace of His Highness the Ruler.

Major General and the party returned to Basra on the morning of the 8th.

27. Major Stuart Williams,Captain Devan and Mr.Frost,representative of the Ministry of War Transport arrived from Basra on the 9th and called on the Political Agent. They returned on the same day.

28. Messrs M.C.Bride, Stevens and Stuannie of the A.I.O.C.,Abadan, arrived by air from Abadan on the 7th and returned on the same day.

29. Colonel W.A.T.Pennant,Director of Transportation,Inland Water Transport Organisation,Paiforce, and Colonel Collard arrived here from Basra on the 15th.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS

30. Lt.Col.H.R.P.Dickson,C.I.E.,Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, at the invitation of the Political Agent, Bahrain, and the Manager of the C.A.S.O.C. left for Bahrain via Al-Khobar by car on the 2nd and returned by the same route on the 12th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS

31. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Shaikh Salim al Hamood As Subah, Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, Shaikh Jabir and Shaikh Subah, His Highness' two sons and notables left for hawking on the morning of the 6th and returned on the 12th.

32. Shaikh Abdullah Salim,C.I.E.,accompanied by Shaikh Fahad As Salim went to Falaicha Island on the 10th and returned on the 11th.

SAUDI OFFICIALS

33. Shaikh Hafith Wahba, Saudi Arabian Minister Plenipotentiary in London arrived here from Riyadh on the 12th and is staying with His Highness the Ruler. He called on the Political Agent on the 14th and the Political Agent returned the call on the 15th. It is reported that he will be here for a few days before the resumes his journey to London via Iraq.

SOCIAL

34. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 13th to which members of the Ruling family, notables and leading merchants were invited.

CALLS

35. His Highness the Ruler called on the Political Agent on the 3rd and again on the 13th.

- 2 -

LOCAL NEWS

Ext 797/44

36. Reference paragraph 21 of Kuwait summary No.2 of 1944.
On the 2nd Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, Head of the Education Department ordered X eight Kuwaitis to be arrested. Five of them were immediately caught but three tried to abscond to Iraq. Instructions were at once given to the Port and Gate police to stop them. Later in the day they gave themselves up and all eight were sent to prison. Four of them were teachers, one book-seller and 3 non-employed. Shaikh Abdullah Jabir tried the case on the 5th in his capacity as Judge and ordered that two of them should be beaten in the Mubarakiya school in the presence of all the teachers and boys. The others were reprimanded and released.

37. An Alan was issued on the 2nd fixing taxi hire for various places in and outside the town including taxi hire by the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company's cars and/or lorries to Zubair. Another Alan was also issued regarding registration of stocks of cotton piecegoods and tea held by merchants. The underlying idea is to fix the price for a cheaper quality of piecegoods suitable for the poor and to stop profiteering in tea. The Kuwait Government are anxious to import tea in their name and to sell to the public at a reasonable profit.

38. The Education Department are collecting funds from merchants for aid to poor students. The collections so far are said to amount to over Rs.15,000/-. It has been decided that a major portion of this amount should be utilised towards the clothing of poor students whose parents cannot afford it.

39. A whale about 50 feet long has been thrown up on the western shore of Kuwait.

40. EXCHANGE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs. | 13 - 6 - 6 |
| 1 £(Gold sovereign) | = Rs. | 66 -12 - 0 |
| 100 M.T.Silver Dollars | = Rs. | 275 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs. | 162 - 0 - 0 |

METEOROLOGICAL

41.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | = 84° |
| Minimum " | = 54° |
| Humidity | = 81% |
| Rainfall | nil |

SHIPPING

42. M/V "CAITHNESS" called here on the 8th and discharged 36346 bags of wheat for Kuwait.

Sd. C.J.PELLY
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th February 1944.

116

(118)

Secret

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1944 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 28.2 | RT |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 29 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 797/44.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary. No 2. (January 16th - 31st).

Paragraph 20, reporting a scheme for the sale and distribution of tyres and tubes, and paragraph 21 on intrigues against the Egyptian Director of Education and his staff, are of interest.

M. Rodgers.
22/2

2/3

1/3

Seen Pol Cttee 3.3.44



~~Secretary E&O Dept~~ 24/2

Also see paragraphs 20 & 25.

23/2

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

S E C R E T

No.2 of 1944

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January 1944.

...

BRITISH OFFICIALS

14. The Political Agent left for Basra on the 27th of January by launch to meet the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf who passed through ~~Basra en route~~ to Cairo. He returned to Kuwait on the 1st February.

15. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 25th.

VISITORS.

16. Lt-Col McCreath and Major Claydon of I.W.T. arrived here on the 27th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

17. Shaikh Fahad As Salim, Controller of Finance, left for hawking on the 17th and returned on the 18th.

18. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., went to Failacha Island on the 22nd and returned on the 23rd.

19. Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak, Director of Security left for hawking on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL NEWS.

20. The Kuwait Government has put into effect a carefully worked out scheme for the sale at a reasonable price and distribution of its quota of motor and bicycle tyres and tubes received from India. The scheme includes provisions to ensure that none of these tyres find their way out of Kuwait.

21. There are certain intrigues afoot in the local schools against the Director of Education and his staff, both he and they being Egyptians. Shaikh Abdullah Jabir, Head of the Education Department is personally conducting enquiries. The intriguers are reported to be Kuwaiti teachers and some outsiders.

PILGRIMS.

Ext 543/44
cf Khorramshahr Diary No 2.

22. Reference paragraph 9 of Kuwait summary No.1 of 1944. Most of the pilgrims have returned from the Haj. The Persian pilgrims have spread a story here that one of their number was executed in Mecca by the Saudi authorities on a charge of carrying filth with the intention of depositing it in the Mosque of Abraham while the Persians say that the accused man was sick and vomited in the Mosque. The news of the execution has created some agitation amongst the Persian residents in Kuwait.

EXCHANGE.

| 23. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs.13-7-0 |
| | 1 £(Gold sovereign) | = Rs.66-0-0 |
| | 100 M.T.Silver Dollars | = Rs.275-0-0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs.162-0-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 24. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temp. | = 73.5° |
| | Minimum " | = 43° |
| | Humidity | = 87% |
| | Rainfall | = 1.29" |

25. SHIPPING.

The SS "Barala" called here on the 20th and landed 4166 packages of general cargo.

5th February 1944.

Sd. C.J.Pelly,
POLITICAL AGENT, KUWAIT.

S E C R E T





No.2 of 1944

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January 1944.

...

BRITISH OFFICIALS

14. The Political Agent left for Basra on the 27th of January by launch to meet the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf who passed through Basra on route to Cairo. He returned to Kuwait on the 1st February.

15. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 25th.

VISITORS.

16. Lt-Col McCreath and Major Claydon of I.W.T. arrived here on the 27th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

17. Shaikh Fahad As Salim, Controller of Finance, left for hawking on the 17th and returned on the 18th.

18. Shaikh Abdullah As Salim, C.I.E., went to Failacha Island on the 22nd and returned on the 23rd.

19. Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak, Director of Security left for hawking on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL NEWS.

20. The Kuwait Government has put into effect a carefully worked out scheme for the sale at a reasonable price and distribution of its quota of motor and bicycle tyres and tubes received from India. The scheme includes provisions to ensure that none of these tyres find their way out of Kuwait.

21. There are certain intrigues afoot in the local schools against the Director of Education and his staff, both he and they being Egyptians. Shaikh Abdullah Jabir, Head of the Education Department is personally conducting enquiries. The intriguers are reported to be Kuwaiti teachers and some outsiders.

PILGRIMS.

22. Reference paragraph 9 of Kuwait summary No.1 of 1944. Most of the pilgrims have returned from the Haj. The Persian pilgrims have spread a story here that one of their number was executed in Mecca by the Saudi authorities on a charge of carrying filth with the intention of depositing it in the Mosque of Abraham while the Persians say that the accused man was sick and vomited in the Mosque. The news of the execution has created some agitation amongst the Persian residents in Kuwait.

EXCHANGE.

23.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs.13-7-0 |
| 1 £(Gold sovereign) | = | Rs.56-0-0 |
| 100 M.T.Silver Dollars | = | Rs.275-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = | Rs.152-0-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

24.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temp. | = | 73.6° |
| Minimum " | = | 43° |
| Humidity | = | 67% |
| Rainfall | = | 1.29" |

25. SHIPPING.

The SS "Barala" called here on the 20th and landed 4166 packages of general cargo.

6th February 1944.

Sd. G.J.Pelly,
POLITICAL AGENT, KUWAIT.

Secret

118
(120)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 44 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 30/45 (2) | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | P.I. Committee | 14.2 | ASP |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext 543/44.

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 1 of 1944. (January 1st – 15th).

There is nothing of great importance in this Summary. Paragraph 9. on the return of pilgrims from the Haj, and paragraph 10. on the fate of the ex-Saudi Trade Agent in Koweit are the most interesting.

M. Edgers
9/2.

Jas 16/2

18/2

Seen Pol. Cttee 19.2.44

E. & O. 1125 1944

[illegible] 12/2

Secretary E & O Dept 18 to see paragraph 13.

[illegible] 9/2.

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET

No.1 of 1944.

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January, 1944.

...

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

1. Captain Stonor of the M.E.S.C.Cairo arrived here from Bushire by R.A.F.machine on the afternoon of the 11th and was met by the Political Agent at the aerodrome. Accompanied by the Political Agent he called on His Highness the Ruler on the morning of 12th and later paid a visit to the godowns of the Food Control Department, Flour Mills and Bakeries.
He left for Basra by R.A.F. machine on the morning of 13th.

VISITORS.

2. Major Mclean with one British Officer and 4 other ranks arrived here from Basra on the 1st and returned on the 2nd.

3. Dr.G.C.Mylrea, O.B.E., a retired Medical Officer of the American Mission Hospital Kuwait who now lives in Kodikanal (South India) has arrived from India via Basra on the 12th.

4. Messrs Cope and Dobson of the A.I.O.C. arrived by air from Abadan on the morning of 15th and returned the same afternoon to Abadan.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

5. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Failacha Island on the 1st and returned on the 3rd.

6. Shaikh Subah Salim, Chief of Police, left for hawking on the 3rd and returned on the 4th.

7. Shaikh Fahad Salim, Controller of Finance, left for hawking on the 10th and returned on the 14th.

8. Reference paragraph 261 of Kuwait summary No.17 of 1943.
Izzat Jafar, Social Secretary to His Highness the Ruler returned from Syria on the 3rd.

PILGRIMS.

9. Reference paragraph 384 of Kuwait summary No.24 of 1943.
During the period under review most of the Koweiti and Iraqi pilgrims have returned from the Haj. Of the Persian pilgrims it is estimated that about 500 out of 5000 have returned and the rest are either on their way to Kuwait or awaiting transport at Mecca.

10. SAUDI OFFICIALS.

Reference paragraph 346 of Kuwait summary No.22 of 1943.
It is reported that on arrival in Rayadh Abdullah al Qadhi, ex Saudi Trade Agent, Kuwait was sent to prison by order of His Majesty King Ibn Saud. The King is said to have been displeased with him for allowing vehicles to proceed to Mecca from Kuwait with no spares with the result that most of them broke down on the way and the Saudi Government had to provide transport for the pilgrims.

EXCHANGE RATES.

11.
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs. | 13 - 7 - 0 |
| 1 £(Gold sovereign) | = Rs. | 66 - 4 - 0 |
| 100 M.T.Silver dollars | = Rs. | 275 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs. | 162 - 0 - 0 |

/ 12.

- 2 -

METEOROLOGICAL

12. Maximum temperature = 78°
Minimum " -
Humidity " = 96%
Rainfall = nil

13. SHIPPING LIST for the period from 1st to 15th January 1944.
(Port of Kuwait)

| Name and nationality of vessel | Owners | Arrival | Departure | No. of packages landed |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| MV "RESANG" Br | Straits Steamship Co. | 2.1.44. | 4.1.44 | nil |
| SS "NURJEHAN" Br | Biatic S.N.Co,Ltd. | 6.1.44 | 15.1.44 | 16164 |
| SS "KINGYUAN" Br. | China N.Co.,Ltd. | 13.1.44 | 15.1.44 | 3242 |

17th January 1944.

Sd. C.J.Pelly,
POLITICAL AGENT, KUWAIT.

121
(123)

SECRET.

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 44 | Initials. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Under Secretary... | 1.2 | | 
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 2 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT. 374/44.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT.

Intelligence Summary No. 24.
(December 16th to 31st).

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

372 - Visit of the Political Agent to Basra to discuss the question of the date supply.

379 - Rise in the price of mutton owing to the imposition of customs duty on sheep and goats from Saudi Arabia.

383 - Telegraph line between Koweit and Zubair in working order.

384 - Quarantine restrictions on pilgrims returning from the Haj.

387 - Shipping list.

Secretary, E & O Department - to see paragraphs 372 - 379 - 387.

See Pol. letter 12.2.44

E & O. 826 1944

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

FO Dmi Am Adm Mins O 28 JAN 1944

S E C R E T.

No.24 of 1943.

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December,1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

372. The Political Agent left for Basrah on the morning of the 16th in order to discuss with Messrs Andrew Weir and Company and Arab merchants in Basrah the question of the date supply for Kuwait. He returned after midnight on the 17th as the car broke down between Zubair and Safwan.

CALLS.

373. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 20th.

VISITORS.

374. Major Dowson Assistant Political Adviser, Basrah, arrived on the 22nd and called on the Political Agent the same morning. He returned to Basrah on the 23rd.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

375. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Falaicha Island on the 16th and returned on the 27th.

376. Shaikh A bdullah Mubarak, Director of Public Security left for hawking on the 16th and returned on the 17th.

377. His Highness the Ruler left for hawking on the 23rd and returned on the 31st.

378. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir accompanied the Ruler.

LOCAL NEWS.

379. The Kuwait Government issued an "Alan" on the 21st according to which sheep and goats from Saudi Arabia and/or Persia are liable to 6¼% Customs duty on the estimated value. This has caused a sudden rise in the price of mutton which is now sold at Rs.10/- a waqia (5 lbs) instead of at the previous price of Rs.8/-.

380. His Highness' daughter has been married to Shaikh Abdullah al Khalifah.

381. Reference paragraph No.362 of Kuwait summary No.23. Another robbery has been reported by a nakhudha of a dhow belonging to the Kuwait Water Supply Company. The robbers apparently came from the Persian coast near Gusba.

382. The Kuwait Government observed the first day of the month of Muharram as a Muslim New Year day. All the local offices and shops were closed.

383. The telegraph line between Kuwait and Zubair which was interrupted during the Iraqi trouble in May 1941 has been repaired by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department and is now in working order. One reason for not working it has succeeded another. The arrival of a telegraphist from India is now awaited before it can function.



/ 384. .......

SECRET.

No.24 of 1943.

KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

372. The Political Agent left for Basrah on the morning of the 16th in order to discuss with Messrs Andrew Weir and Company and Arab merchants in Basrah the question of the date supply for Kuwait. He returned after midnight on the 17th as the car broke down between Zubair and Safwan.

CALLS.

373. The Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler on the 20th.

VISITORS.

374. Major Dowson Assistant Political Adviser, Basrah, arrived on the 22nd and called on the Political Agent the same morning. He returned to Basrah on the 23rd.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

375. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaicha Island on the 16th and returned on the 27th.

376. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak, Director of Public Security left for hawking on the 16th and returned on the 17th.

377. His Highness the Ruler left for hawking on the 23rd and returned on the 31st.

378. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak and Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir accompanied the Ruler.

LOCAL NEWS.

379. The Kuwait Government issued an "Alan" on the 21st according to which sheep and goats from Saudi Arabia and/or Persia are liable to 6% Customs duty on the estimated value. This has caused a sudden rise in the price of mutton which is now sold at Rs.10/- a wagia (5 lbs) instead of at the previous price of Rs.8/-.

380. His Highness' daughter has been married to Shaikh Abdullah al Khalifah.

381. Reference paragraph No.362 of Kuwait summary No.23. Another robbery has been reported by a nakhuda of a dhow belonging to the Kuwait Water Supply Company. The robbers apparently came from the Persian coast near Qusba.

382. The Kuwait Government observed the first day of the month of Muharram as a Muslim New Year day. All the local offices and shops were closed.

383. The telegraph line between Kuwait and Zubair which was interrupted during the Iraqi trouble in May 1941 has been repaired by the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department and is now in working order. One reason for not working it has succeeded another. The arrival of a telegraphist from India is now awaited before it can function.

/ 384. ......

- 2 -

384. The local authorities issued a Notice on the 20th enforcing quarantine restrictions on all pilgrims except Kuwaities returning from the Haj. The Health Committee has constructed 100 huts to accommodate the pilgrims who will have to pay Re.1/- per head per day. A Liaison committee is being formed to arrange for their transport and food etc.
The measure is the subject of controversial discussion from many points of view.

385. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Iraqi dinar | = Rs. 13 - 3 - 0 |
| 1 | £ (Gold sovereign) | = Rs. 69 - 4 - 0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver dollars | = Rs. 275 - 0 - 0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials | = Rs. 168 - 0 - 0 |

386. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | = 79° |
| Minimum " | - |
| Humidity | = 89% |
| Rainfall | = 0·09" |

387. SHIPPING LIST for the period 16th - 31st December 1943.
(Port of Kuwait)

| Name and nationality of Vessel. | Owners | Arrival | Departure | No. of packages landed. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| SS "SAMARKAND" Br | Blue Funnel Lines | 22/12 | 24/12 | 1219 KD barges. |
| MV "RESANG" Br | Straits Steamship Co., Ltd. | 22/12 | 23/12 | 3(general cargo) |
| SS "TANFIELD" Br | BISN CO., Ltd. | 26/12 | 27/12 | 1943 bags sugar. |
| SS "EMPIRE ENVOY" Br | Hugh Roberts for M.W.T. | 28/12 | 30/12 | 17393 bags flour, wheat and barley. |

KUWAIT,
2nd January, 1944.

Sd. C. J. PELLY,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

JKG

Secret (126) ,124

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 44 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ext. 367. | Under Secretary... | 20.1 | RP |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 257/44.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 23 (December 1st - 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

353. Anti-locust campaign.

362. Report of an attack by armed robbers on water dhow of Koweit Water Supply Company in Shatt-al-Arab.

366. 25% increase in fares of the Koweit-Zubair Transport Company.

367. Visit of mission from Petroleum Resources Corporation of America. (This is the official U.S. Mission there was so much telegraphing about).

368. Re-opening of barge reconstruction project at Shuwaikh.

For Information

26/1

27.1.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET



No.23 of 1943

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December 1943.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

350. On the 5th December the Political Agent accompanied by Lt-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, CIE., Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, went to Burgan and Magwa to inspect the oil wells.

351. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 7th.

352. On the 9th Major A.L.Greenway, M.B.E., Agency Assistant Surgeon left for Bushire on transfer to take up his new appointment as Residency Surgeon there.

VISITORS.

353. Captain Vesey Fitzgerald, Locust Officer, with an advance party arrived on the morning of 1st and left the same day for Saudi Arabia. He returned here on the 11th to meet Captain McGough who brought the main force for the attack on the locusts. It consisted of no less than 189 motor vehicles, a most formidable concentration of transport and one to excite envy in a land undergoing starvation in that respect.

354. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company and Mr. Drake of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by air from Abadan on the 14th. Mr. Drake returned the same day to Abadan.

355. Flt.Lieutenant Cameron R.A.F. arrived here on the 3rd September, with B.O.Rs. The party spent six weeks in Saudi Arabia setting up meteorological stations. They stayed some time at Shikaka, Hail, Buraidah, Riyadh and Linah, the arcana of the Arabia of the Arabists. The trip was of course officially sponsored which seems to explain why it aroused no extraordinary interest either amongst the parties to it; or amongst the Arabs.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

356. Shaikh Subah Salim, Chief of Police, left for hawking on the 1st and returned on the 3rd.

357. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarrak, Director of Security, left for hawking on the 3rd and returned on the 5th.

358. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Qaisuma on the evening of the 6th to offer his 'Id greetings to Shaikh Mohammad bin Isa al Khalifa who had a hawking camp there. He returned on the 9th.

359. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his sons and Shaikh Salim al Hamood left for hawking on the afternoon of the 7th and returned on the afternoon of the 15th.

360. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, the Controller of the Food Supply Committee went to Failaicha on the 7th and returned on the 9th.

361. Shaikh Fahad as Salim sent to Qaisuma on the 11th to visit Shaikh Mohammad bin Isa al Khalifa and returned on the 13th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS./ ......

SECRET

INDEXED

FILE COPY

No.23 of 1945

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December 1945.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

350. On the 5th December the Political Agent accompanied by Lt-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, CIE., Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, went to Burgan and Magwa to inspect the oil wells.

351. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 7th.

352. On the 9th Major A.L.Greenway, M.B.E., Agency Assistant Surgeon left for Bushire on transfer to take up his new appointment as Residency Surgeon there.

VISITORS.

353. Captain Vesey Fitzgerald, Locust Officer, with an advance party arrived on the morning of 1st and left the same day for Saudi Arabia. He returned here on the 11th to meet Captain McGough who brought the main force for the attack on the locusts. It consisted of no less than 139 motor vehicles, a most formidable concentration of transport and one to excite envy in a land undergoing starvation in that respect.

354. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company and Mr. Drake of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by air from Abadan on the 14th. Mr. Drake returned the same day to Abadan.

355. Flt.Lieutenant Cameron R.A.F. arrived here on the 3rd September, with 2.O.Rs. The party spent six weeks in Saudi Arabia setting up meteorological stations. They stayed some time at Shikaka, Hail, Buraidah, Riyadh and Linah, the arcana of the Arabia of the Arabists. The trip was of course officially sponsored which seems to explain why it aroused no extraordinary interest either amongst the parties to it; or amongst the Arabs.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

356. Shaikh Subah Salim, Chief of Police, left for hawking on the 1st and returned on the 3rd.

357. Shaikh Abdullah Mubarrak, Director of Security, left for hawking on the 3rd and returned on the 5th.

358. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., left for Qaisuma on the evening of the 6th to offer his 'Id greetings to Shaikh Mohammad bin Isa al Khalifa who had a hawking camp there. He returned on the 9th.

359. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his sons and Shaikh Salim al Hamood left for hawking on the afternoon of the 7th and returned on the afternoon of the 15th.

360. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, the Controller of the Food Supply Committee went to Failaicha on the 7th and returned on the 9th.

361. Shaikh Fahad as Salim sent to Qaisuma on the 11th to visit Shaikh Mohammad bin Isa al Khalifa and returned on the 13th.

...... LOCAL AFFAIRS./

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

362. It is reported that on the night of the 5th one of the water dhows of the Kuwait Water Supply Company was attacked by armed robbers while taking water in the Shatt-al-Arab river. The Nakhudha and crew of the dhow were beaten and their belongings and cash taken. The case was reported to the Police Station at Fao.

363. Reference paragraph 343 of Kuwait summary No.22 of 1943. The Basrah-Zubair-Kuwait road was opened for traffic as from the 4th.

364. The 'Id al 'Adha was celebrated on the 7th and 8th and on each day the Political Agent paid calls on some 25 of the leading citizens and Government officials. The Political Agent also attended the tribal dancing on the evening of the Id day.

The Political Agent was received by His Highness the Shaikh at 10 a.m. instead of at 3.30 p.m. as in the past. The change was due to His Highness's departure on his shooting trip in the afternoon.

365. News was received from Mecca that all the pilgrims who left Kuwait arrived there in time to perform their Haj. Many vehicles broke down on the way but King Ibn Saud supplied several lorries to help the pilgrims.

366. With effect from the 12th December the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company increased their fares for the Kuwait-Zubair journey by 25%.

The Petroleum Resources Corporation Mission.

367. A mission from the Petroleum Resources Corporation of America headed by Mr. Degolyer arrived here from Abadan on the morning of the 15th by an American Service plane. Mr.J. M.Pattinson, General Manager of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Abadan accompanied the Mission. Its purpose was to review the petroleum resources in the Middle East.

The Political Agent, Mr.L.D.Scott and Lt-Col.H.R.P. Dickson met the Mission at the aerodrome and the party consisting of about 12 came to the Agency. They left shortly and spent the day at the Kuwait Oil Company's fields. They left Kuwait by plane for Damam at 4 p.m.

368. INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

Reference paragraph 340 of Kuwait summary No.22 of 1943 The I.W.T. have re-opened the barge reconstruction project at Shuwaikh during the period under report. An American ship "SAMBRIAN" arrived here on the 9th and has so far discharged 1275 packages of materials required for the project.

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 369. | 1 Iraqi dinar | = Rs. 13 - 3 - 0 |
|---|---|---|
| | 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | = Rs. 67 - 0 - 0 |
| | 1 M.T. Silver dollar | = Rs. 2 - 12 - 0 |
| | 1 Saudi Rial | = Rs. 1 - 12 - 0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 370. | Maximum temperature | = 77° |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum " | — |
| | Humidity | = 77% |
| | Rainfall | = 0.16" |

SHIPPING.

127
(129)

- 3 -

371. SHIPPING LIST for the period 1st to 15th December, 1943.
Port of Kuwait.

| Name and Nationality of Vessel. | Owners | Arrival | Departure | Number of packages landed at Kuwait. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| SS "BARALA" Br. | B.I.S.N.Co.Ltd. | 5.12.43 | 6.12.43 | 1683 |
| MV "RESANG" Br. | Strait SS Co. Under B.I.S.N.Co | 8.12.43 | 9.12.43 | nil. |
| SS "SAMBRIAN" Br. | Clan Lines. Now under Isthmian Charter. | 9.12.43 | In port | 1275 (IWT) |
| SS "BARODA" Br. | BISN Co.Ltd. | 14.12.43 | 15.12.43 | 545 |

Sd.(C.J.Pelly,ICS)
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th December, 1943.

Secret

128 (130)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 44 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 6.1 | RM | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 6 | W | Ext 6886/43 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 22. ( November 16th – 30th ).

Summary No. 21. for the first half of November has not yet been received.

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

340. Possible reopening of barge reconstruction project at Shuwaikh by I.W.T.

344. Pilgrim traffic.

345. Smuggling of sugar from Qatar to Koweit.

346. Saudi Arabian Trade Agent and his staff replaced.

(M). Odgers. 31/12.

For Information

E&O Secretary see paras 345 & 346

Seen Pol Cttee 14.1.44



(22232) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

S E C R E T

No. 22 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD

FROM 16TH to 30TH NOVEMBER, 1943

(5)

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

335. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 19th.

336. The Political Agent proceeded to Basrah on the 26th and returned on the evening of the 29th.

337. Reference paragraph 174 of Kuwait Summary No.13 of 1943. Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., Agency Assistant Surgeon returned from India on the 25th.

VISITORS.

338. Reference paragraph 321 of Kuwait Summary No.21 of 1943. Mr. F.J. Wakelin, Director of Education, Bahrain and Educational Adviser to the Kuwait Government returned to Bahrain on the 19th.

339. Mr. E. D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived by air from Abadan on the 21st and returned on the 23rd.

340. Lt.Col.Elson and Captain Wyche of the I.W.T., Basrah arrived here on the 23rd. The object of the visit was to discuss with the Political Agent the re-opening of the barge reconstruction project at Shuwaikh, on this occasion, by the I.W.T. They returned on the 24th.

341. Mr. J. Allcard of Gray Mackenzie, Basrah, visited Kuwait on the 23rd and returned on the 24th.

LOCAL ~~XXXXXXX~~ OFFICIALS.

342. Reference paragraph 327 of Kuwait Summary No.21 of 1943. His Highness the Ruler and party returned from hawking on the evening of the 24th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

343. It was reported by His Highness' Secretary on the night of the 30th that the drivers of the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company's two lorries travelling from here to Zubair on the morning of the 30th stated that they were compelled to return from Safwan, on the Kuwait-Zubair road, by British military there. His Majesty's Consul-General, Basrah, was requested telegraphically to inform the Political Agent of the reason for this action. By the time of writing it has been generally assumed to have been taken as part of the security precautions connected with the meeting of Mr.Churchill, President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin at Tehran.

Traffic in pilgrims.

334. Yusuf Behbehani, a merchant of some repute here, agreed to pay Abdul Razzak,Shami, a Syrian by birth and motor contractor, 8% of the fare to and from the Holy Places paid by every pilgrim produced by the latter. The responsibility for finding transport for the pilgrims in return for their fares was onerous and difficult and, as a result, seems to have been bandied about between the two parties. Abdul Razzak Shami lost his head and,

as the....

as the number of pilgrims increased to unprecedented proportions, he bought old lorries for prices in the neighbourhood of a lac of rupees each. These were purchased from the proceeds of fares at Rs.2000/- per pilgrim and from capital advanced by Behbehani, but even though fares were raised to Rs.4000/- and Rs.5000/- per seat the receipts did not cover the cost of sending them to Mecca where however they were despatched. No transport was available for the original pilgrims who had paid Rs.2000/- per seat and they clamoured to Sheikh Abdullah Mubarak, the Security Officer for the return of their money. The Sheikh handled the case with the greatest fairness and ultimately gave Behbehani two days in which to refund Rs.9,00,000; this he managed to do by means of loans from the Imperial Bank of Iran and from various Kuwaiti merchants. The Ruler of Kuwait obliquely refused to help him. He hopes to recover his losses from the sale of the lorries on their return from the pilgrimage.

Smuggling of Sugar.

345. On the 22nd information was received from the Political Agent, Bahrain that about 200 bags of sugar were being smuggled from Qatar to Kuwait by a motor launch belonging to Yusuf bin Dhiem, Bahraini, consigned to Saiyid Abdul Mohsin and Haji Saghir of Kuwait. On arrival of the launch in Kuwait it was searched by the local authorities and found to contain 34 bags which were not manifested. They have been detained by the Customs pending instructions.

SAUDI OFFICIALS.

346. The Saudi Trade Agent here was dismissed from his post, he and his staff carried off to Saudi Arabia, and a new Agent and staff installed, all in the space of a few hours on the 29th November. This swift action is believed to be a result of the inspection carried out by the Saudi Inspector of Finance whose visit to Kuwait was recorded in paragraph 297 of this Summary. It is stated that he found discrepancies in the Trade Agent's accounts. The direct occasion of his dismissal seems however to have been a letter written direct to King Ibn Saud by his Head Clerk complaining of his smuggling and other activities. The name of the new Trade Agent is Abdullah Sa'ad.

EXCHANGE RATES.

347.
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi dinar | = | Rs.13 - 2 - 0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign | = | Rs.68 - 8 - 0 |
| 1 M.T.Silver Dollar | = | Rs.2 - 12 - 0 |
| 1 Saudi Rial. | = | Rs. 1 - 15 - 0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

348.
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | = | 80° |
| Minimum temperature | = | 62° |
| Humidity | = | 65% |

SHIPPING.

349. Nil

Sd. C.J. Pelly,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd December, 1943.

S E C R E T.

No.21 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH NOVEMBER 1943.

British Officials.

319. The Political Agent visited Falaicha Island on the 5th.

Visitors.

320. Captain J.P.D'Cunha, Staff Captain, the 40 Indian Infantry Brigade Basrah came here on the morning of the 1st to collect certain information regarding routes etc between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in connection with the anti-locust campaign. He returned the same day.

321. Mr. F.J. Wakelin, Director of Education Bahrain and Educational Adviser to Kuwait Government arrived from Bahrain on inspection duty on the 11th.

322. Lt.Col. H.L. Mackinlay and Major G.E. Carter, R.A.,arrived from Basrah on the 13th on leave and returned on the 14th.

323. Colonel Sharp and Major Last arrived on the 13th and returned to Basrah on the 15th.

324. Major Watson and Major Dyson arrived from Basrah on the 14th on 15 days' leave.

Local Officials.

325. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, Controller of Finance, proceeded to Basrah on the 4th and returned on the 15th. There does not seem to have been any special reason for his journey.

326. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Falaicha Island on the 2nd and returned on the 15th.

327. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his two sons Jabir and Subah and Shaikh Salim al-Hamood left for hawking on the morning of the 15th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Kuwait Water Supply Company.

328. Reference paragraph 450 of Kuwait Summary No.24 of 1942. With effect from the 5th November the Water Supply Company have increased the price of Fao water from As.0-9 to As.1-3 for a four gallon tin, giving the general rise in prices as a reason for the increase. The coolie charges vary for carrying water from water tanks to houses. At present due to the inflationary influence of a large number of Haj Pilgrims in the town a tin of water is sold for As.8/- by the water car[...]

Royal Air Force.

329. A "Boston" aircraft flying from Sharjah was forced d[...] here on the 4th when one of its engines developed trouble[...] was remedied by repair staff flown from Basrah from where [...]

/provisions...

S E C R E T.

No.21 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM
1ST TO 15TH NOVEMBER 1943.

British officials.

319. The Political Agent visited Failaka Island on the 5th.

Visitors.

320. Captain J.F.D'Cunha, Staff Captain, the 40 Indian Infantry Brigade Basrah came here on the morning of the 1st to collect certain information regarding routes etc between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in connection with the anti-locust campaign. He returned the same day.

321. Mr. F.J. Wakelin, Director of Education Bahrain and Educational Adviser to Kuwait Government arrived from Bahrain on inspection duty on the 11th.

322. Lt.Col. H.L. Mackinlay and Major G.S. Carter, R.A., arrived from Basrah on the 13th on leave and returned on the 14th.

323. Colonel Sharp and Major Last arrived on the 13th and returned to Basrah on the 15th.

324. Major Watson and Major Dyson arrived from Basrah on the 14th on 15 days' leave.

Local officials.

325. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, Controller of Finance, proceeded to Basrah on the 4th and returned on the 15th. There does not seem to have been any special reason for his journey.

326. Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., went to Failaka Island on the 2nd and returned on the 15th.

327. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his two sons Jabir and Subah and Shaikh Salim al-Hamood left for hawking on the morning of the 15th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Kuwait Water Supply Company.

328. Reference paragraph 450 of Kuwait Summary No.24 of 1942. With effect from the 5th November the Water Supply Company have increased the price of Fao water from As.0-9 to As.1-3 for a four gallon tin, giving the general rise in prices as a reason for the increase. The coolie charges vary for carrying water from water tanks to houses. At present due to the inflationary influence of a large number of Haj Pilgrims in the town a tin of water is sold for As.5/- by the water car

Royal Air Force.

329. A "Boston" aircraft flying from Sharjah was forced d here on the 4th when one of its engines developed trouble was remedied by repair staff flown from Basrah from where

.../provisions...

provisions had also to be flown for the stranded air-crew and passengers. They stayed at the R.A.F. Rest-House. The same arrangements were made a few days later for the crew and passengers of a"Wellington"bomber,one engine of which, by a remarkable stroke of flying luck, cut out completely but over Kuwait aerodrome where a good landing was made. It took 4 days to get it in working order. The aircraft was heavily loaded and flying at 1,500 feet when the engine failed, so that the chance of a good landing off an aerodrome was remote.

The Haj —— Spiritual and Material Aspects.

330. The removal of the Persian Government restrictions on the pilgrimage has resulted in an explosion of pent-up religious fervour this year. An estimate places the number of Persian pilgrims now in Kuwait at 8,000. In fact, the town seems full of drab figures in "European" clothes forming an unpleasant contrast to the picturesque Arabs.However, if wealth redeems them, the Persians are saved. The Majority seem to be well supplied with funds the release of which has forced up the cost of all but the mere necessities whose prices are controlled. Amongst the latter, a less secular dispensation would include transport to the Holy Places: instead there has been an unholy alliance between profit and piety. A seat in a lorry for the round trip Kuwait-Mecca-Medina-Kuwait now costs Rs.4,000 (lorries take 20 passengers); an extra Rs.1,000/- secures a place in a five seater car. These fares do not include pilgrims food or lodging during halts at the Holy Cities. As might be expected the already inflated price of motor-vehicles has soared. Here are some examples:-

(i) Colonel Dickson's 10-year old Ford (erroneously reported as seven years old in the last summary) - first sold for Rs.30,000/- and re-sold for Rs.47,000/-.

(ii) One Dodge car sold for Rs.64,000/-
Two lorries " " Rs.150,000/-

(iii) Offer made for one Packard car (not accepted) Rs.80,000/-

All these vehicles are, of course, second or third-hand.

Two convoys of 500 pilgrims each left for Mecca during the period under review, and others are expected to leave shortly. In view of the condition of some of their costly transport their arrival at their destinations and, even more so, their return here, are matters in which speculation would be vain, and, for unbelievers, improper.

Kuwait Labour for U.S.A. Persian Gulf Service Command.

331. Lt.Col. Hill of the U.S. Persian Gulf Service Command arrived here on the 11th November with several large trucks in which he exported 200 labourers from Kuwait for his Command's work at Khorramshahr. This labour was not engaged through the Agency.

METEOROLOGICAL.

332. Maximum temperature = 90°
Minimum temperature = 70°
Humidity = 65%

/ EXCHANGE RATES ......

provisions had also to be flown for the stranded air-crew and passengers. They stayed at the R.A.F. Rest-House. The same arrangements were made a few days later for the crew and passengers of a "Wellington" bomber, one engine of which, by a remarkable stroke of flying luck, cut out completely but over Kuwait aerodrome where a good landing was made. It took 4 days to get it in working order. The aircraft was heavily loaded and flying at 1,500 feet when the engine failed, so that the chance of a good landing off an aerodrome was remote.

The Haj —— Spiritual and Material Aspects.

330. The removal of the Persian Government restrictions on the pilgrimage has resulted in an explosion of pent-up religious fervour this year. An estimate places the number of Persian pilgrims now in Kuwait at 8,000. In fact, the town seems full of drab figures in "European" clothes forming an unpleasant contrast to the picturesque Arabs. However, if wealth redeems them, the Persians are saved. The majority seem to be well supplied with funds the release of which has forced up the cost of all but the mere necessities whose prices are controlled. Amongst the latter, a less secular dispensation would include transport to the Holy Places: instead there has been an unholy alliance between profit and piety. A seat in a lorry for the round trip Kuwait-Mecca-Medina-Kuwait now costs Rs.4,000 (lorries take 20 passengers); an extra Rs.1,000/- secures a place in a five seater car. These fares do not include pilgrims food or lodging during halts at the Holy Cities. As might be expected the already inflated price of motor-vehicles has soared. Here are some examples:-

(i) Colonel Dickson's 10-year old Ford (erroneously reported as seven years old in the last summary) - first sold for Rs.30,000/- and re-sold for Rs.47,000/-.

(ii) One Dodge car sold for Rs.64,000/-
Two lorries " " Rs.150,000/-

(iii) Offer made for one Packard car (not accepted) Rs.35,000/-

All these vehicles are, of course, second or third-hand.

Two convoys of 500 pilgrims each left for Mecca during the period under review, and others are expected to leave shortly. In view of the condition of some of their costly transport their arrival at their destinations and, even more so, their return here, are matters in which speculation would be vain, and, for unbelievers, improper.

Kuwait Labour for U.S.A. Persian Gulf Service Command.

331. Lt.Col. Hill of the U.S. Persian Gulf Service Command arrived here on the 11th November with several large trucks in which he exported 200 labourers from Kuwait for his Command's work at Khorramshahr. This labour was not engaged through the Agency.

METEOROLOGICAL.

332. Maximum temperature = 90°
Minimum temperature = 70°
Humidity = 65%

/ EXCHANGE RATES ......

SECRET

No.3 of 1944.
KUWAIT Intelligence Summary for the period
from 1st to 15th February 1944

...



VISITORS

26. Major General Selby, C.in C.,Paiforce, accompanied by his Personal Assistant Major ~~Holman~~, two BORs and two IORs arrived from Basra on the afternoon of the 6th and stayed at the Agency. On the morning of the 7th Major General Selby and the Political Agent visited the barge assembly project at Shuwaikh and called on Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak, Director of Public Security and Governor of the Town. They also visited the Town Palace of His Highness the Ruler.

Major General and the party returned to Basra on the morning of the 8th.

27. Major Stuart Williams,Captain Devan and Mr.Frost,representative of the Ministry of War Transport arrived from Basra on the 9th and called on the Political Agent. They returned on the same day.

28. Messrs M.C.Bride, Stevens and Stuannie of the A.I.O.C.,Abadan, arrived by air from Abadan on the 7th and returned on the same day.

29. Colonel W.A.T.Pennant,Director of Transportation,Inland Water Transport Organisation,Paiforce, and Colonel Collard arrived here from Basra on the 15th.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS

30. Lt.Col.H.R.P.Dickson,C.I.E.,Acting General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, at the invitation of the Political Agent, Bahrain, and the Manager of the C.A.S.O.C. left for Bahrain via Al-Khobar by car on the 2nd and returned by the same route on the 12th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS

31. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Shaikh Salim al Hamood As Subah, Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, Shaikh Jabir and Shaikh Subah, His Highness' two sons and notables left for hawking on the morning of the 6th and returned on the 12th.

32. Shaikh Abdullah Salim,C.I.E.,accompanied by Shaikh Fahad As Salim went to Falaicha Island on the 10th and returned on the 11th.

SAUDI OFFICIALS

33. Shaikh Hafith Wahba, Saudi Arabian Minister Plenipotentiary in London arrived here from Riyadh on the 12th and is staying with His Highness the Ruler. He called on the Political Agent on the 14th and the Political Agent returned the call on the 15th. It is reported that he will be here for a few days before the resumes his journey to London via Iraq.

SOCIAL

34. The Political Agent gave a dinner party on the 13th to which members of the Ruling family, notables and leading mrechants were invited.

CALLS

35. His Highness the Ruler called on the Political Agent on the 3rd and again on the 13th.

134

(136)

- 3 -

EXCHANGE RATES.

333.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi dinar | . . . | = Rs. | 13 - 0 - 0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | . . | = Rs. | 68 - 0 - 0 |
| 1 M.T. Silver Dollar | . . | = Rs. | 2 - 12 - 0 |
| 1 Saudi Rial | . . . | = Rs. | 2 - 0 - 0 |

SHIPPING.

334. On the 4th S.S. "Tsinan" arrived from India and discharged 3781 packages of general cargo.

Sd. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th November, 1943.

JKG

- 2 -

provisions had also to be flown for the stranded air-crew and passengers. They stayed at the R.A.F. Rest-House. The same arrangements were made a few days later for the crew and passengers of a "Wellington" bomber, one engine of which, by a remarkable stroke of flying luck, cut out completely but over Kuwait aerodrome where a good landing was made. It took 4 days to get it in working order. The aircraft was heavily loaded and flying at 1,500 feet when the engine failed, so that the chance of a good landing off an aero-drome was remote.

- 3 -

EXCHANGE RATES.

333. 1 Iraqi dinar . . . = Rs. 13 - 0 - 0
1 £ (Gold sovereign) . . . = Rs. 68 - 0 - 0
1 M.T. Silver Dollar . . . = Rs. 2 - 12 - 0
1 Saudi Rial . . . = Rs. 2 - 0 - 0

SHIPPING.

334. On the 4th S.S. "Taiman" arrived from India and discharged 5781 packages of general cargo.

Sd. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th November, 1943.

JKG

Kuwait labour for U.S.A. Persian Gulf Service Command.

331. Lt.Col. Hill of the U.S. Persian Gulf Service Command arrived here on the 11th November with several large trucks in which he exported 800 labourers from Kuwait for his Command's work at Khorramshahr. This labour was not engaged through the Agency.

METEOROLOGICAL.

332. Maximum temperature = 90°
Minimum temperature = 70°
Humidity = 65%

EXCHANGE RATES ......

Secret

135
(137)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 43 | Initials | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Please extract para 208. to Koweit Pol. Office file. | Under Secretary... | 9.12 | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 9 | | Ext 6275/43. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 6466/43. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 20. (October 16th - 31st).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

314. Prohibition of export of cotton piece goods from Koweit to Saudi Arabia.

315. Speculation, particularly in motor cars.

Summary No 14 for the second half of July is also attached, although it is now out of date, paragraph 209 on trade

15/12

CL 16/12

17/12/43

21 xii

Seen Pol Cttee 22.12.43

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

with Switzerland, and the Appendix on traffic in gold are still of interest.

M. Odgers.
1/12.

Secretary E&O Dept. [illegible] 4/XII
to see paras 209, 315 & 318

Financial Secretary
to see appendix to Summary 14.

[illegible] 8.XII.43.

[illegible] 1/12.

SECRET. No. 20 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST OCTOBER, 1943.

VISITORS.

306. Squadron Leader Treasure and three other officers arrived from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 21st.

307. Major Hodges and Captain Lumley arrived here from Basrah on the 21st and returned on the 23rd. Their visit was to the Kuwait Oil Company in connection with the asphalt account.

308. Commodore C.F. Hammill, R.N., Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf accompanied by his Intelligence Officer arrived by "Walrus" aircraft at 10.30 a.m. on the 23rd. He called on His Highness the Shaikh at 11.15 a.m. as arranged by the Political Agent at his request. After luncheon at the Agency the Senior Naval Officer and his Intelligence Officer returned to Basrah.

309. An American party of officers and N.C.O's arrived here from Basrah on the evening of 23rd. They stayed in the R.A.F. Guest House for the night and returned the next day. The only purpose of their visit was to get a change of air from Basrah.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

310. Shaikh Hamood al Salman the aged and respected cousin of the Ruler, returned from Syria on the 26th, where he had gone for medical treatment.

311. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his son-in-law Shaikh Abdullah Jabir and Dr. L.R. Scudder of the American Mission went to Faileicha Island on the 27th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

312. Lt.Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. Acting General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company presented on behalf of the Company a 3 ton lorry with two spare tyres to His Highness the Ruler. The present value of the lorry is estimated locally to be Rs.50,000/-.

313. His Highness dined at the Agency on the 29th.

314. The Kuwait Government at the instance of the Political Agent issued an "Alan" on the 31st prohibiting the export of cotton piecegoods to Saudi Arabia as a separate quota has been fixed for that country and the quota for Kuwait is barely sufficient for it's own requirements.

SPECULATION AND PRICES.

315. The large profits made by Kuwait merchants within the last few years, the restrictions by quotas and control of prices of trade in foodstuffs, and the impossibility of obtaining for trade the majority of pre-war goods have resulted in accumulations of capital feverishly seeking for outlets. Into this atmosphere came the news within the last fortnight of the further restrictions by India of the export of various commodities, particularly piecegoods. The immediate result was speculative buying in which the prices of cloth reached fantastic heights; other commodities reacted in the same way; Indian cigarettes rose from Rs.8/- to Rs.25/- per tin, cement from Rs.18/- to Rs.25/- per bag and meat and fish to Rs.6/- per 5 lbs. (a "Wagia").

The/

SECRET. No. 20 of 1943.

FILE COPY

INDEXED

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST OCTOBER, 1943.

VISITORS.

506. Squadron Leader Treasure and three other officers arrived from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 21st.

507. Major Hodges and Captain Lumley arrived here from Basrah on the 21st and returned on the 23rd. Their visit was to the Kuwait Oil Company in connection with the asphalt account.

508. Commodore C.F. Hammill, R.N., Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf accompanied by his Intelligence Officer arrived by "Walrus" aircraft at 10.30 a.m. on the 23rd. He called on His Highness the Shaikh at 11.15 a.m. as arranged by the Political Agent at his request. After luncheon at the Agency the Senior Naval Officer and his Intelligence Officer returned to Basrah.

509. An American party of officers and N.C.O's arrived here from Basrah on the evening of 23rd. They stayed in the K.O.C. Guest House for the night and returned the next day. The only purpose of their visit was to get a change of air from Basrah.

LOCAL [illegible].

510. Shaikh Hamood al Salman the aged and respected cousin of the Ruler, returned from Syria on the 25th, where he had gone for medical treatment.

511. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by his son-in-law Shaikh Abdullah Jabir and Dr. L.R. Scudder of the American Mission went to Failaka Island on the 27th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

512. Lt.Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. Acting General Superintendent of Kuwait Oil Company presented on behalf of the Company a 3 ton lorry with two spare tyres to His Highness the Ruler. The present value of the lorry is estimated locally to be Rs.50,000/-.

513. His Highness dined at the Agency on the 29th.

514. The Kuwait Government at the instance of the Political Agent issued an "elan" on the 21st prohibiting the export of cotton piecegoods to Saudi Arabia as a separate quota has been fixed for that country and the quota for Kuwait is barely sufficient for it's own requirements.

[illegible].

515. The large profits made by Kuwait merchants within the last few years, the restrictions by quotas and control of prices of trade in foodstuffs, and the impossibility of obtaining for stock the majority of pre-war goods have resulted in accumulations of capital feverishly seeking for outlets. Into this atmosphere came the news within the last fortnight of the further restrictions by India of the export of various commodities, particularly piecegoods. The immediate result was speculative buying in which the prices of cloth reached fantastic heights; other commodities reacted in the same way; Indian cigarettes rose from Rs.6/- to Rs.25/- per tin, cement from Rs.12/- to Rs.25/- per bag and meat and fish to Rs.6/- per 3 lbs. (a "man [illegible]").

137
(139)

- 2 -

The motor-car market in Kuwait needs special mention. In addition to the other factors noted, it has been particularly affected by the recent large influx of pilgrims all seeking transport to the Holy Places. Lucky owners of cars in Kuwait have not been slow to cash in on this religious fervour in the belief that the money thus gained will ultimately recover its value. One Shaikh sold two of his second-hand cars for one lac of rupees and then bought Colonel Dickson's seven years old Ford car for Rs.30,000/-.

Inflation seems to have spread fairly evenly through the community and the main sufferers from it are those on fixed salaries.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 316. | Maximum temperature | = | 94.0° |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | = | 72.0° |
| | Humidity | = | 90.0% |

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 317. | 1 | Iraqi dinar | = | Rs.13- 0-0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 | £ (Gold sovereign) | = | " 64- 4-0 |
| | 1 | M.T. Silver Dollar | = | " 2-12-0 |
| | 1 | Saudi Rial | = | " 1-12-0 |

SHIPPING.

318. 12028 bags of wheat and 3017 bags of barley were landed by S.S. "Asian" on the 30th.

Sgd. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd November, 1943.

138
140

Mr. Palmer.

file ... Dist

I think Summary 14 should be distributed if only to complete the files of the other Depts

M. O.

1/12.

Distn at acting ?

[illegible] 6466

[illegible]

852,891

With the Compliments of the
Under Secretary of State

HOME OFFICE
(DRUGS BRANCH),
~~QUEEN ANNE'S CHAMBERS~~
Cornwall House,
~~BROADWAY~~
Stamford Street,
LONDON, ~~S.W.~~ S.E.1.

30th November, 1943.

141
139

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ext 7793 298 | Under Secretary... | 13.xi | [illegible] | |
| | Secretary of State | | | 6177 / 43. |
| | Pol Committee | 15 | LK | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: Koweit.

Intelligence Summary No 19.
(1st to 15th October).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

293. Arrival of Egyptian School teachers for Koweit Education Dept.

298 Arrival in Cairo of 17 Kuwaiti school boys.

302. Arrangements for shipping of dates from Basra to Koweit.

For information. [illegible] 12/xi

Secretary, E+O Dept to see para 302.

[illegible] 10/xi

Q. 17 xi

CL 18/11

[illegible] 18/11

[illegible] 22/11/43

Seen Pol. Cttee 24.11.43

E. & O. 7119 1943

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

Secret.

131

(142)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943. | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dist<sup></sup> | Under Secretary... | 18.12 | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext 6697/43.

Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 21 (November 1st - 15th).

---

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

328: Increase in price of Fao water.

330. Uncontrolled prices, particularly of transport, forced up by influx of pilgrims.

M. Odgers.
15/12.

Secretary Political Dept.

See paragraph 330.

15/12.

Seen, thank you.
17/12

4/1/44

Seen Pol Office 8.1.44

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

No. 19 of 1943.

SECRET. KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH OCTOBER, 1943.

------

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

287. Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait handed over charge of his post to Mr.C.J. Pelly, I.C.S., on the morning of 1st and left for Bahrain on transfer by motor launch in the evening of the same day.

VISITORS.

288. Wing Commander Hales and Lieutenant Biscoe visited Kuwait from Basrah on the 9th.

289. Mr.A.T. Oldham, His Majesty's Consul in Basrah and Major Sheppard of 37 Mobile Workshop, Basrah arrived on the 10th and returned on the 11th.

290. Flight Lieutenant S.W. Marsh of R.A.F. Shaibah arrived on the 11th with stores for the operators of the R.A.F. Wireless station in this Agency and returned the same day.

291. Mr. C. Munro of Mac Andrews Forbes, Basrah arrived on the 10th and returned to Basrah on the 12th.

ARMY.

292. Two training drives were made to Kuwait by various M.T. Units from Basrah during the period under review.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

293. Eleven Egyptian School teachers for Kuwait Education Department arrived on the 5th and assumed duties on the 7th.

294. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Dr.L.R. Scudder, M.D., of American Mission, and several members of Subah family went to Failaicha Island on the 6th and returned on the 7th.

295. Shaikh Fahad as Salim, Controller of Finance visited Failaicha Island on the 14th in His Highness' launch and returned on the 15th.

296. Reference Kuwait summary No.18 of 1943, paragraph 273.

Shaikh Abdullah as Salim, C.I.E., returned to Kuwait on the 15th.

SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT.

297. Mohammad Sarur Sabban, Inspector of Finance arrived from Riyadh on the 5th to check the accounts of the Trade Agent of the Saudi Arabian Government and returned on the 14th. He called on the Political Agent before his departure from Kuwait.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

298. Reference paragraph No.277 of Kuwait summary No.18.

The seventeen Kuwaiti boys have arrived in Cairo and joined their schools. The news of their arrival was announced by the B.B.C. on the 11th and created the flattering impression that London has its eye on events in Kuwait.

299. Reference paragraph No.281 of Kuwait summary No.18.

Tribal dancing was held for three days from the second day of 'ID in the public square in front of the Directorate of Public Security. His Highness and members of the European community attended it at times.

CALLS./

CALLS.

300. On the 5th the Political Agent called officially on His Highness the Ruler who returned the call on the same day.

301. All members of the Ruling family, notables and leading merchants called on the Political Agent on the 6th.

DATE QUOTA.

302. Reference paragraph 268 of Kuwait summary No.18.

Haji Ahmad bin Abdul Latif and his brother, Kuwait Government agents for the shipment of the Kuwait quota of Iraqi dates from Basrah to Kuwait called on the Political Agent on the 2nd and complained that they were unable to buy, since no one would sell, and that they could not keep the dhows waiting indefinitely for their cargoes. Captain Murchison of Andrew Weir and Company was requested by the Political Agent to give every possible assistance to Haji Ahmad in purchasing dates in Basrah.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 303. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature | = | 101.0° |
| | Minimum temperature | = | 70.0° |
| | Humidity | = | 95.0% |

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 304. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1 Iraqi dinar | = | Rs.13- 1-0 |
| | 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | = | " 63- 4-0 |
| | 1 M.T. Silver Dollar | = | " 2-12-0 |
| | 1 Saudi Rial | = | " 1-12-0 |

SHIPPING.

305. 2998 packages of general cargo were landed by S.S."Esang" on the 10th.

Sgd. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

20th October, 1943.

142
(145)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ext. 177 282 | Under Secretary... | 4.11 | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 4 | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | EXT. 5922/43 |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: KOWEIT

Intelligence Summary No. 18 (Sept.16th-30th)

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

268. Arrangements for shipping 2250 tons of dates from Basra to Koweit. Rumours of smuggling of dates across the Shat-el-Arab.

269. Collection of shell at Umm Qasr for the use of the A.I.O.C.

276. Arrival of Koweit and Saudi Arabia tribal quota of wheat for October.

277. Departure of 17 Koweit schoolboys for Egypt

282. Re-opening of R.A.F. wireless station.

For information.

M. Odgers. 27/10.

Secretary, E.& O.Dept. to see paras 268 & 276.

Secretary, Political Dept. to see para 283.

Seen Pol. Cttee 16.11.43



(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

No.18 of 1943.

SECRET.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1 9 4 3.

--------



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

268. On the 18th the Political Agent visited Basrah and returned the same day. The object of the visit was to complete arrangements with Messrs. Andrew Weir and Company, the monopolists and Haji Ahmad bin Abdul Latif al Hamad the Kuwait Agent for the shipping of two thousand two hundred and fifty tons of dates to Kuwait. Captain Murchison the manager of Messrs. Andrew Weir and Company instructed Haji Ahmad to make his purchases at the best possible price in the open market. The monopolists do not guarantee delivery nor is the price fixed. Their role seems therefore to resemble a performance of "Hamlet" not featuring the Prince of Denmark. They state that they hope to ensure an adequate supply of dates at a reasonable price by control of export and by persuading the Iraq Government to adopt adequate measures to prevent smuggling. For these services they are to receive a liberal commission from the purchasers. There are strong rumours to the effect that dates are already being smuggled across the Shatt-al-Arab and that prices in the Basrah Liwa are rising.

269. On the 24th the Political Agent visited Umm Qasr to investigate rumours that one Hana Shaikh, an Iraqi was collecting shell inside Kuwait territory. There was ample evidence that extensive operations have recently been in progress well inside the Kuwait border but the lorries engaged in the work were on that particular day operating in Iraq territory to the north of the Umm Qasr military area. The contractor had a shell dump just south of the southern bund of the military area in Kuwait territory and was in fact using the actual bund as a road to his bellum loading point on the Khor Abdullah. It is understood that the shell is being shipped to Abadan for the use of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

270. Lt.Col. Dimmock, R.A. Artillery adviser to the Iraq Army visited Kuwait from the 16th to the 26th on leave.

271. Mr.C.J. Pelly, I.C.S., Political Agent designate arrived from India via Muscat in the H/T Barjora on the 25th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

272. Mr. E.S. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran proceeded to Basrah on the 26th and returned on the next day.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

273. Reference paragraph 241 of Kuwait summary No.16.
Shaikh Abdullah as Salim, C.I.E., returned to Kuwait on the 18th and left for Failacha island on the 24th. This gentleman prefers not to be present in Kuwait town during the Id celebrations when the Ruler of Kuwait is more prominent than usual.

274. Reference para 262 of Kuwait summary No.17.
Shaikh Subah as Salim returned to Kuwait on the 24th.

275. Mr. Abdullah Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness proceeded to Basrah on the 26th and returned on the 28th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

276. 1400 tons of wheat arrived by sea from Iraq on the 20th. This is the Kuwait and Saudi Arabian tribal quota for the month of October.

277. On the 22nd seventeen Kuwait school boys left for Egypt where they are to continue their studies. Eleven of the boys have obtained scholarships from the Egyptain Government. His Highness' grand son, the son of Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, the Chief Judge and Director of Education, is a member of the party.

278. On the 27th and 28th the Basrah Public Relations travelling cinema toured to Kuwait. On the first night a private show of films was given at Dasman, His Highness' private house, to which the European and American community were invited. On the second evening a public showing took place in the Safat at which at least 10,000 people were present.

279./

279. The Political Agent called privately on the Shaikh on the 27th and introduced Mr.C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.. Official calls will be exchanged after Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E!s departure for Bahrain which will probably be on October the 1st.

280. Between the 27th, and the 29th, Shaikhs Abdullah al Mubarak, Abdullah as Salim, C.I.E., Abdullah al Jabir and Subah as Salim and representatives of the leading merchants called to bid farewell to the Political Agent and were introduced to Mr. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.

281. The Id was celebrated on the 30th September and 1st October and on each day the Political Agent and Mr.C.J. Pelly paid calls on some 25 of the leading citizens and Government Officials. On the first day the "Eastenders" call on the "Westenders" and on the second day the "Westenders" return the calls.

The Political Agent and Mr. Pelly were received by His Highness the Shaikh in the town palace reception room at 3.45 p.m. and His Highness later received the Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company and other leading British and American citizens.

Due to the death of Shaheen al Ghanim, a leading merchant, on the Id day no tribal dancing took place in the town.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

282. Reference para 258 of Kuwait summary No.17.

On the 18th the Royal Air Force reopened their Wireless station in the Agency. This station will be most useful in the event of aircraft having to make forced landings in Kuwait territory. On the 20th a Moth aircraft flew to Kuwait with a skilled mechanic to complete the installation of the set.

283. One Abdul Razzak as Shami visited the Political Agent on the 19th and offered to provide sufficient lorries to convey three thousand Indian pilgrims to the Holy Places for the Haj. He proposed to charge Rs.4000/- for each pilgrim. This sum is to include lodging in Kuwait before and after the pilgrimage, transport to and from Mecca and Medina, Saudi Government dues, and taxes and medical attendance, but not food. The matter has been referred to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf. It is highly improbable that this man will ever be able to carry out his offer in view of the acute shortage of reliable motor vehicles.

METEOROLOGICAL.

284.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 103° |
| Minimum temperature | : | 73° |
| Humidity | : | 48% |

285. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraq Dinar | = | Rs. 13-0-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold sovereign) | = | " 59-8-0 |
| 1. M.T. Silver Dollar | = | " 2-7-0 |
| 1 Saudi rial | = | " 1-8-0 |

286. SHIPPING.

List enclosed.

Sgd. C.J. Pelly, I.C.S.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd October, 1943.

145

(148)

Statement of return of all shipping entered and cleared the port of Kuwait during the period 16th to 30th September,1943.

| Name of steamer. | Nationality. | Name of owners. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No.of Pkgs. landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S/s Tsinan. | British. | China S.N.Co. consigned to B.I. | 20-9-43. | 23/9/43. | 17471 Pkgs. | Kuwait. |
| H/T Barjora. | -do- | B.I.S.N.Co.,Ltd. | 25-9-43. | 25/9/43. | Nil | " |

E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray Mackenzie and Co., Ltd., Kuwait.

No.17 of 1943.

SECRET.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th September, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

252. The Political Agent, left for Fao and Basrah on the 7th and returned on the 9th.

253. Flying Officer V.Morris of R.A.F. Shaibah, visited Kuwait on the 4th.

254. Wing Commander Dutton, D.F.C., and Wing Commander Baldwin in a Beaufighter were forced down at Kuwait on the 10th owing to poor visibility.

255. Air Commodore G.L. Carter, D.S.O., A.F.C., visited Kuwait on the 14th

256. Lt.Col. Dimmock, R.A., Artillery Adviser to the Iraq Army arrived on the 12th.

257. A U.S.A. army aircraft landed on the 12th. No previous intimation of their intention to visit Kuwait was given nor did the pilot or any of his passengers have the courtesy to communicate with the Agency. Enquiries disclosed that they had come from Abadan to pay a friendly call on an American missionary parson here.

258. Air Commodore G.L. Carter, D.S.O., A.F.C., informed the Political Agent that he proposed to re-open the R.A.F. wireless station here. This was indeed good news for it will now be possible to communicate with Basrah in a matter of minutes instead of in a matter of days.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

259. Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company accompanied by Mr. A.E. Drake of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by air from Abadan on the 1st and returned to Abadan by same means on the 4th.

260. Mr. F.T. Eyers of the Imperial Bank of Iran arrived from Basrah on the 9th and returned on the 12th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

261. Izzat Mohammad Jafar, A.D.C. to His Highness the Ruler proceeded on one month's leave to Syria.

262. Shaikh Subah As-Salim, Commandant of Police, Kuwait, left for Basrah on the 14th. It is reported that he was involved in a little difficulty over the import of a bag of sugar and six wrist watches into Iraq. It is understood that these articles were being taken to Iraq as gifts for his mother.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

263. Reference paragraph 247 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1943.

The damaged machine was repaired and flown to Shaibah on the 5th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

264. The Ramadhan open in very hot weather and some of the elderly people found it very trying indeed. Lately however the weather has moderated and up to the 15th there had been no unfortunate incidents due to disordered stomaches acting on weak intellects. The month has been quiet with no news.

METEOROLOGICAL.
265.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 114° |
| Minimum temperature | : | 83.4° |
| Humidity | : | 59% |

EXCHANGE RATES.
266.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gold sovereign | = | Rs. 62-0-0 |
| 100 | M.T. Silver Dollar | = | " 250-0-0 |
| 1 | Iraq Dinar | = | " 13-0-0 |
| 100 | Saudi Rials | = | " 150-0-0 |

267. SHIPPING. N I L.

Sgd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

September 18th, 1943.

M. P. 147 (150)

Notes for Registry.

SECRET

Distn [illegible]

| | 19 43 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|
| Under Secretary... | 1.10 | [illegible] |
| Secretary of State | | [illegible] |
| Pol Committee | 2 | [illegible] |
| Under Secretary... | | |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext.5365/43.

GSM 30/45 (2)

Subject: Koweit Intelligence Summary No. 16 (August 16th - 31st)

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

239. Flying visit of Colonel Hoskins, President Roosevelt's Personal Envoy to Ibn Saud.

244. Dispute over R.A.F. petrol carried from Koweit to Masirah, which arrived in short weight and with water mixed with the petrol in some tins.

245. Sugar smuggling.

Secretary, E.& O. Dept. to see paras. 245 and 248.

M. Edgers. 27/9.

[illegible] 27/9

[illegible] 29/9

[illegible] 5/10



Seen Pol Cttee 6.10.43

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No.16 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 16TH TO 31ST AUGUST, 1 9 4 3.

----------

U.S.A. OFFICIALS.

239. Colonel Hoskins, Personal Envoy of President Roosevelt to Ibn Saud arrived here from Dharan on the morning of 26th. He was accompanied by one U.S. army officer and two enlisted men. The party travelled in two military lorries.

Colonel Hoskins accompanied by the Political Agent called on His Highness the Ruler immediately after his arrival.

In conversation with the Political Agent Colonel Hoskins said that Ibn Saud appeared to be in excellent health and confirmed the report referred to in para 230 of my summary No.15 of 1943.

Colonel Hoskins left for Basra the same morning much to the disappointment of His Highness who had arranged a dinner party in his honour and the Political Agent who had arranged accommodation for the party at the Agency.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

240. Reference para 219 of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1943.
Abdullah Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness returned from Iraq on the 16th.

241. Reference para 232 of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1943.
Shaikh Abdullah As-Salim, C.I.E., left for Iraq on the 26th.
Shaikh Hamood al Jabir left for Khorramshahr by A.I.O.C. tug on the 21st.

242. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Dr.L.R. Scudder of the American Mission, and several members of his family headed by Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir the Chief Judge went on a cruise from the 27th to the 30th to the islands of Failaicha and Kubar.

243. LOCAL INTERESTS.

243. An unpleasant murder took place on the 23rd. The victim was a prostitute and the alleged murderer a servant of Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E. The motive jealousy, the method employed a number of knife wounds in the stomach, and the locality, very appropriately, a cemetery in the town. This is the first murder that has taken place for more than two years. The case is still under trial.

244. On the 28th the nakhudhas of two Persian dhows appealed to the Political Agent to help them to recover the balance of the freight on R.A.F. petrol that they had carried from Kuwait to Masirah Island. The dhows whose registration numbers are 160 and 199 loaded 5240 and 6500 tins of petrol respectively in Kuwait but discharged only 4400 and 5500 tins at Masirah claiming that the missing tins were jettisoned during bad weather. Some of the sealed tins landed were found to contain a mixture of sea water and petrol. It is most unlikely that the nakhudhas would have tampered with the tins in this way when they could have pleaded jettisoning as an excuse for being short.

Examination showed that the dispute was between persons over whom the Shaikh had jurisdiction so the Political Agent declined to intervene and the parties were directed to the Kuwait Courts. On the 31st the Persian nakhudhas and their crews arrived at the Political Agency and grouped themselves round the flag staff. It transpired that their case had been adjourned by the Kuwait Court to enable the Gulf Trading Company agent to produce evidence from Basra. The Political Agent asked the Court to settle the case as soon as possible as the nakhudhas and their crews are destitute and living on charity.

SMUGGLING.

245. Sixty bags of smuggled sugar were seized by the retainers of Shaikh Fahad As-Salim the president of the Food Control Committee. They were being conveyed by automobile to Masila where they were to be loaded into Persian boats. The sugar and the motor vehicles have been confiscated and action taken against the individual smugglers one of whom was Yusuf al Marzook who has been in prison for the last five years. He is an incorrigible smuggler.

246. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim and his brother Shaikh Subah As-Salim the

149
(152)



the Chief of Police visited the islands of Failaicha and Kubar from the 26th to the 28th in search of smugglers. They failed to make a capture but a Persian boat found in suspicious circumstances at Failaicha island was detained for further examination.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

247. Three Hurricans bound from Habbaniyah to Shaibah lost their way and found themselves in the early afternoon of the 31st over Kuwait Bay in full view of the town. Two turned back and one landed five miles west of the town. The pilot was unhurt and the machine only slightly damaged. The pilot said he was forced down owing to lack of petrol and felt certain that his two companions would never be able to reach Shaibah and would have to land somewhere between the northern limits of the bay and Umm Qasr. Asked why they did not all land on the landing ground he said none of the pilots knew that there was a landing ground here. A search party was sent out immediately by Shaikh Abdullah al-Mubarak with instructions to search the country to Hagaijah on the Khor Subiya that night and to go on to Umm Qasr by daylight. The following day the Kuwait Oil Company moved the plane to the landing ground and a repair party arrived from Shaibah from whom it was learnt that the other two machines had landed at Abadan.

PEARLING SEASON.

248. The last of the pearling boats arrived here on the 26th. The divers returned early owing to month of Ramathan being earlier this year.

METEOROLOGICAL.

249.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 116° |
| Minimum temperature | : | 82° |
| Humidity | : | 66% |

EXCHANGE RATES.

250.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Gold Sovereign | = | Rs. 62-4-0 |
| 1 | M.T. Silver Dollar | = | " 2-4-0 |
| 1 | Iraq Dinar | = | " 12-15-0 |
| 1 | Saudi Rials | = | " 1-7-0 |

SHIPPING.

251. List enclosed.

Sgd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Dated 3rd September, 1943.

Secret

150

(153)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1943 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dist: ... | Under Secretary... | 18.9 | | 
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 26 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 4986/43.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summary No 15 (August 1st - 15th).

Summaries 11 to 14, covering the months of June and July, have not yet been received. A note on the cost of the Pilgrimage by camel is attached to this Summary.

Paragraphs of interest are:-

227. The Pearl market.

228. Fall in the price of gold.

229. Koweit Governments' stocks of rice exhausted

231. Health of H.H. the Sheikh.

22 ix.

24/9

Seen Pol. Cttee 29.9.43.



(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

233/

233. Incursion of Iraqi Police.

Financial Secretary

to see section 228

E&O. Secretary ✓ 15/9

to see section 229.

Political Secretary  Thank you. 18/9

to see section 234, and attached note.

M. Rodgers.
11/9.

Para 233. This seems to have been an astonishing piece of impertinence on the part of the Iraq Police.

18/9

SECRET. No.15 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th August, 1 9 4 3.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

215. Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait, returned from India via Basra on the 6th.

216. Mr. G.N. Jackson, officiating Political Agent left for Khorramshahr by A.I.O.C. tug on the 7th.

217. Air Commodore Carter arrived on the 10th. He called on His Highness with the Political Agent on the 11th. The Air Commodore returned to Basra on the 13th.

218. The D.A.D.S. 40th Brigade arrived on the 9th of August accompanied by another officer and left on the 12th. They made enquiries about the possibility of obtaining eight tons of fresh fish a week for British troops in Iraq. The idea seemed to be to remove the fish in special insulated barges or lorries twice weekly. Unfortunately our supply is not sufficient for our own needs during the winter months.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

219. Abdulla Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness, left for Basra en route to Baghdad with his family on the 2nd on a short holiday.

220. Reference para 199 of Kuwait summary No.14.
On the 14th Shaikh Abdullah Salim as Subah, C.I.E., returned from Failaicha Island and called on the Political Agent on the 15th.

221. His Highness dined at the Agency on the 6th.

222. Saiyid Tawfiq bin Saiyid Talib al Naqib arrived on the 9th from Basra accompanied by Lt. Crole Rees of the Levies. The first named is an employee of the Basra Port Authority and his visit was in connection with the supply of 40,000 cubic feet of sand for the Basra Port.

223. On the 9th seven aircraft of the United States Forces, force landed on the landing ground and on being supplied with petrol, flew to Abadan. An eighth machine was not so fortunate for it was forced down through lack of petrol at Ras Az-Zor, damaging the propeller on landing in a salt marsh. The pilot was rescued by air during the afternoon none the worse though remarkably thirsty. Four days later the machine was removed from the salt marsh and the propeller changed by Lt.Hackett of the U.S. Army whose "break-down" party were efficient, courteous, and cooperative. The machine was flown away on the 15th and the breakdown party returned to Kuwait en route for Abadan the same afternoon.
The Kuwait Government were as cooperative as usual and at once arranged for guards for the plane. The Agency arranged for rescue cars to be sent out on the afternoon of the 9th in case the aerial rescue of the pilot had proved impracticable. Only one taxi could be persuaded to go owing to the fear of damage to some irreplaceable parts, and practically all parts are now irreplaceable; however the Governor of the town most kindly placed his own car at the Agency's disposal. It would have been the height of folly to have sent a single car out alone in the summer.

224. On the 10th the Nakhudha of a vessel locally described as a "Kotia" arrived at the Agency and informed the Political Agent that he had sailed in March from Karachi with a crew of ten, that the vessel was the property of the Ministry of War Transport, and that his craft was one of twenty five constructed in India for work on the Shatt-al-Arab. He stated that he had no idea where the other craft were but that his particular vessel was anchored at Shaiba, a coastal village some thirty miles to the south of Kuwait, and that he was unable to make any further progress. On the 15th the Political Agent visited Shaiba to examine the vessel but found it had sailed during the night for Kuwait. The vessel was inspected later in the day at Kuwait and found to be a small craft of a capacity of about 100 tons and in seaworthy condition so the nakhudha was advised to waste no more time and sail at once for Basra.

225. Reference para 205 of Kuwait summary No.14.
It now appears that the fire destroyed approximately one third of the Amir Saud's house and that the damage was confined to his own reception rooms. The cause of the fire is said to have been an electric wire fuzing as a result of the engine being overloaded in order to provide suitable illuminations for the return of the Amir's son Fahad with his Egyptian wife.



226./

SECRET.

No.15 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th August, 1 9 4 3.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

215. Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait, returned from India via Basra on the 8th.

216. Mr. G.N. Jackson, officiating Political Agent left for Khorramshahr by A.I.O.C. tug on the 7th.

217. Air Commodore Carter arrived on the 10th. He called on His Highness with the Political Agent on the 11th. The Air Commodore returned to Basra on the 13th.

218. The D.A.D.S. 40th Brigade arrived on the 9th of August accompanied by another officer and left on the 12th. They made enquiries about the possibility of obtaining eight tons of fresh fish a week for British troops in Iraq. The idea seemed to be to remove the fish in special insulated barges or lorries twice weekly. Unfortunately our supply is not sufficient for our own needs during the winter months.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

219. Abdulla Mullah Saleh, Secretary to His Highness, left for Basra en route to Baghdad with his family on the 2nd on a short holiday.

220. Reference para 199 of Kuwait summary No.14.

On the 14th Shaikh Abdullah Salim as Subah, C.I.E., returned from Failaicha Island and called on the Political Agent on the 15th.

221. His Highness dined at the Agency on the 5th.

222. Saiyid Tawfiq bin Saiyid Falih al Naqib arrived on the 9th from Basra accompanied by Lt. Croole Rees of the Levies. The first named is an employee of the Basra Port Authority and his visit was in connection with the supply of 40,000 cubic feet of sand for the Basra Port.

223. On the 8th seven aircraft of the United States Forces, Force landed on the landing ground and on being supplied with petrol, flew to Abadan. An eighth machine was not so fortunate for it was forced down through lack of petrol at Az-Zor, damaging the propeller on landing in a salt marsh. The pilot was rescued by air during the afternoon none the worse though remarkably thirsty. Four days later the machine was removed from the salt marsh and the propeller changed by Lt. Hackett of the U.S. The "break-down" party were efficient, courteous, and cooperative. The machine was flown away on the 15th and the breakdown party returned to Kuwait en route for Abadan the same afternoon.

The Kuwait Government were as cooperative as usual and at once arranged for guards for the plane. The Agency arranged for rescue cars to be sent out on the afternoon of the 9th in case the aerial rescue of the pilot had proved impracticable. Only one taxi could be persuaded to go owing to the fear of damage to some irreplaceable parts, and practically all parts are now irreplaceable; however the Governor of the town most kindly placed his own car at the Agency's disposal. It would have been the height of folly to have sent a single car out alone in the summer.

224. On the 10th the Nakhuda of a vessel locally described as a "Kotia" arrived at the Agency and informed the Political Agent that he had sailed in March from Karachi with a crew of ten, that the vessel was the property of the Ministry of War Transport, and that his craft was one of twenty five constructed in India for work on the Shatt-al-Arab. He stated that he had no idea where the other craft were but that his particular vessel was anchored at Shaiba, a coastal village some thirty miles to the south of Kuwait, and that he was unable to make any further progress. On the 15th the Political Agent visited Shaiba to examine the vessel but found it had sailed during the night for Kuwait. The vessel was inspected later in the day at Kuwait and found to be a small craft of a capacity of about 100 tons and in seaworthy condition so the nakhuda was advised to waste no more time and sail at once for Basra.

225. Reference para 205 of Kuwait summary No.14.

It now appears that the fire destroyed approximately one third of the Amir Saud's house and that the damage was confined to his own reception rooms. The cause of the fire is said to have been an electric wire fusing as a result of the engine being overloaded in order to provide suitable illuminations for the return of the Amir's son Fahad with his Egyptian wife.

152. (155)



226. Reference para 206 of Kuwait summary No.14.
On his return from India the Political Agent sent a personal telegram of condolence to His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud to which an appropriate reply was duly received.

227. Reference para 207 of Kuwait summary No.14.
The ban on the import of pearls into India has now been removed and there was a general feeling of relief which was shown by a rise in prices inspite of the Indian market being reported as dull.
The present forecastes are that the catch will be a good one this season though a large proportion of high grade pearls is not expected. This is as well for the high grade pearls were normally absorbed by the European and American markets. The European market is no longer accessible and there are few Americans who can afford to buy pearls out of income while those that have money to invest prefer, very patriotically, to purchase War Bonds and Saving Certificates. Some few speculators in India are said to be buying in anticipation of a boom in the American market after the war but prices are so high in the Bombay market as compared with pre-war days that the old established merchants are doing no business.

228. The sovereign fell from Rs.71/- to Rs.51/- during the period under review but later recovered to Rs.56/-. The fall was due to rumours of gold selling by the British Government in Persia, the action of the members of the local Chamber of Commerce or Merchants Council in combining to prevent the forward buying of gold, the collapse of Mussolini which restored Jewish confidence and caused a fall in gold prices in Iraq and further west, and slight panic as gold holders saw prices falling and hastily sold while they could still make a small profit. The realisation that Italy was still in the war though Mussolini had resigned checked the downward motion.

229. The Kuwait Government stocks of rice are now reported to be exhausted and the issue of rice as a ration has been discontinued. It is probable that some of the more substantial merchants have a small quantity left which in accordance with custom they are sharing with their employees. The local population have behaved in an exemplary manner and on all sides are heard expressions of gratitude for the wheat and flour which H.M's Government and the Government of India have been able to make available. That the absence of rice is being felt is undoubted for Kuwaities are just as much rice eaters as Madrasies and have not enjoyed their compulsory change in diet.
The Kuwait Government are endeavouring to purchase rice from Iraq through the M.E.S.C. The price that will be asked will probably work out at more than Rs.120/- a bag which is far beyond the means of the majority of the population. Reports from Saudi Arabia are to the effect that rice of good quality is on sale in Riyadh at Rs.75/- a bag.

230. It is reported here that Ibn Saud's second and fourth sons the Amir Feisal and the Amir Khalid are to pay a visit in the immediate future to the United States of America. Ibn Saud is said to be intending to perform the Haj this year in person.

231. His Highness had a slight recurrence of his heart trouble on the 15th and his medical adviser Dr.L.R. Scudder of the American Mission is endeavouring to persuade him to go to Syria for a rest. His Highness' A.D.C. Izzat Jaffer (Reference para 267 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1942) is seconding the doctor's efforts for personal reasons. He does not take kindly to the idea of spending the Ramadhan in the heat of Kuwait.

232. Shaikh Abdulla Salim as-Subah, C.I.E., never a strong advocative of the more spartan tenets of Islam proposes spending the Ramadhan in northern Iraq, and Shaikh Hamood al Jabir His Highness' half brother is leaving shortly for Persia.

233. On the 4th two Iraqi police officers travelling in a saloon car and escorted by armed policemen in a vanette mounting a light automatic arrived in Kuwait town. They stated they were in pursuit of one Haji Hussain bin Hamadhi an under-trial prisoner who had escaped on the 3rd with the active assistance of a policeman while in transit between the court and the jail. They carried a letter from Colonel Sargon to the

Political/

- 2 -

226. Reference para 206 of Kuwait summary No.14.
On his return from India the Political Agent sent a personal telegram of condolence to His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud to which an appropriate reply was duly received.

227. Reference para 207 of Kuwait summary No.14.
The ban on the import of pearls into India has now been removed and there was a general feeling of relief which was shown by a rise in prices inspite of the Indian market being reported as dull.
The present forecasts are that the catch will be a good one this season though a large proportion of high grade pearls is not expected. This is as well for the high grade pearls were normally absorbed by the European and American markets. The European market is no longer accessible and there are few Americans who can afford to buy pearls out of income while those that have money to invest prefer, very patriotically, to purchase War Bonds and Saving Certificates. Some few speculators in India are said to be buying in anticipation of a boom in the American market after the war but prices are so high in the Bombay market as compared with pre-war days that the old established merchants are doing no business.

228. The sovereign fell from Rs.71/- to Rs.51/- during the period under review but later recovered to Rs.56/-. The fall was due to rumours of gold selling by the British Government in Persia, the action of the members of the local Chamber of Commerce or Merchants Council in combining to prevent the forward buying of gold, the collapse of Mussolini which restored Jewish confidence and caused a fall in gold prices in Iraq and further west, and slight panic as gold holders saw prices falling and hastily sold while they could still make a small profit. The realisation that Italy was still in the war though Mussolini had resigned checked the downward motion.

229. The Kuwait Government stocks of rice are now reported to be exhausted and the issue of rice as a ration has been discontinued. It is probable that some of the more substantial merchants have a small quantity left which in accordance with custom they are sharing with their neighbours. The local population have behaved in an exemplary manner and on all sides are heard expressions of gratitude for the wheat and flour which H.M.'s Government and the Government of India have been able to make available. That the absence of rice is being felt is undoubted for Kuwaities are just as much rice eaters as Madrasies and have not enjoyed their compulsory change in diet.
The Kuwait Government are endeavouring to purchase rice from Iraq through the U.K.C.C. The price that will be asked will probably work out at more than Rs.120/- a bag which is far beyond the means of the majority of the population. Reports from Saudi Arabia are to the effect that rice of good quality is on sale in Riyadh at Rs.75/- a bag.

230. It is reported here that Ibn Saud's second and fourth sons the Amir Faisal and the Amir Khalid are to pay a visit in the immediate future to the United States of America. Ibn Saud is said to be intending to perform the Haj this year in person.

231. His Highness had a slight recurrence of his heart trouble on the 15th and his medical adviser Dr. L.A. Scudder of the American Mission is endeavouring to persuade him to go to Syria for a rest. His Highness' A.D.C. Izzat Jaffer (Reference para 257 of Kuwait summary No.18 of 1942) is seconding the doctor's efforts for personal reasons. He does not take kindly to the idea of spending the Ramadhan in the heat of Kuwait.

232. Shaikh Abdullah Salim as-Subah, C.I.E., never a strong advocate of the more spartan tenets of Islam proposes spending the Ramadhan in northern Iraq, and Shaikh Hamood al Jabir His Highness' half brother is leaving shortly for Persia.

233. On the 4th two Iraqi police officers travelling in a saloon car and escorted by armed policemen in a vanette mounting a light automatic arrived in Kuwait town. They stated they were in pursuit of one Hajji Hussain bin Hamudhi an under-trial prisoner who had escaped on the 3rd with the active assistance of a policeman while in transit between the court and the jail. They carried a letter from Colonel Ferdon to the

Political/

- 3 -

Political Agent.

It was pointed out to them that their entering Kuwait territory with an armed party without previous reference to the Ruler of Kuwait through the customery channels was both unnecessary and improper and they were advised to leave without delay, advice which they accepted and acted upon.

The action of these police officials was to say the least of it peculiar. Wireless telegraphic communication exists between the two countries and an urgent telegram to this Agency would have been sufficient to ensure His Highness' cooperation in the arrest of a person whose crime was the theft of British Government property. His Highness has asked that an official protest be lodged.

The Shaikh instituted enquiries but no trace of the absconders could be found and it has since been learnt that they did not use the Kuwait route to Nejd. Hussain is said to have crossed the Nejd frontier north of Jariya and the Iraqi policeman acting as his chauffer drove the car through Jariya. It is understood that Ibn Saud has had them both arrested on their arrival in Riyadh.

234. The pilgrimage will be a very uncertain and expensive affair this year. It is probable that at least Rs.1200/- will be charged per person by camel. Owing to the limited number of lorries available owners will expect to get at least Rs.2500/- a seat and seats in private cars will cost even more. Pilgrims will not be welcome in Kuwait unless they bring their own food. A note on the pilgrimage by camel compiled at the Political Agent's request by Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. is appended.

235. It is rumoured here that Ibn Saud has recently received 150 Army lorries from Egypt. The lorries are said to have arrived by road from Akaba and are to be employed in the Riyadh area.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 236. | Maximum temperature | : | 114° |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | : | 85° |
| | Humidity | : | 54 |

237. EXCHANGE RATES.

1 Iraqi Dinar = Rs.13-0-0
1 M.T. Silver Thaler = Rs.2/6/-
1 Gold Sovereign = "36/-/-

238. SHIPPING.

N I L.

Sgd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Dated 21st August, 1943.

PILGRIMAGE COSTS BY CAMEL.

(a) Probable cost of 1943 pilgrimage to Mecca and back by camel from Kuwait, for outside pilgrims, say ex India.
(b) How many camels were likely to be available this year 1943.

2. I have made careful enquiries on the subject and my observations are given below:

(a) Cost per each foreign pilgrim proceeding to Mecca from Kuwait and back should be in the vicinity of Rs.1200/-. This includes the feeding of the pilgrim with plain food i.e. dates, flour, rice, coffee and carrying his tentage and light baggage. The pilgrim must provide himself with little luxuries like tea, sugar, dhal, spices etc.

(b) It is not possible to say how many camels will be available for the pilgrimage but all reports say that there will be an ample supply (up to 1000).

3. Enlarging on above

Under (a) The figure Rs.1200/- is undoubtedly high as compared with normal years, but is due to the high prices for camels today (they fetch Rs.400/- to Rs.600/- a piece now), also the prohibitive cost of foodstuffs for the journey, and the very high cost of water skins, ropes, leather buckets, camel litters, requisites for the journey.

It should be borne in mind that the business of conveying pilgrims whether local Kuwaitis or foreigners, to Mecca, is not undertaken by any of the big Sharif desert tribes of the interior such as the Mutair, Ajman, Harb etc. They are only sellers of camels to those arranging the pilgrimage. This latter work is done by recognized Nejdis, Agailis, Rashaida and Awazim semi tribesmen, domiciled in Kuwait town.

The procedure is that the prospective pilgrim, with family or otherwise, gets into touch with one of the above Pilgrim Contractors, and after coming to an agreement with him, signs a deed whereby the carrier undertakes to convey the party to Mecca and back for a certain fee and supply plain food all along the route.

Every year and for a month prior to the pilgrimage these contractors start purchasing camels for the Haj journey from the tribes, and in ~~gen~~ general make preparations for the number of pilgrims whom they know or estimate will be going. It is essential therefore that if pilgrims are likely to come from India in any numbers, this fact should be made known officially as early as possible in the town.

Another very important point is the fact that a Kuwaiti allows 40 days in which to reach Mecca, an Indian will certainly need about 45 to 50 days, being unused to the hardship of riding a camel. Several Kuwaiti families, whom I know, have already made their arrangements, and at this early date have contracted to pay Rs.1000/- per head for the round trip.

Another important point is that the prospective Indian pilgrim (and this applies also to Iraqis, Afghans, Persians etc.) must be ready in Kuwait as soon after the Id al Fitr following Ramadhan (i.e. 1st October'43) as possible, so as to enable him to make all his arrangements in good time, for the latest date on which he can leave Kuwait is probably 15th October (Kuwaitis 20th October).

It follows that the later the pilgrim arrives, the more he will have to pay for his journey. The contractor will see to this all right.

Under (b) all my information goes to indicate that any number of camels up to 1000 can be made available this year, provided, and this proviso is all important, early notice is given to the camel contractors of the number of pilgrims they will have to provide for. Their custom is only to make advance purchases of camels for the persons they know are going.

---

158

155



Return of all shipping entered and cleared the port of Kuwait during the period from 16th to 31st August, 1943.

| Name of steamer. | Nationality. | Name of owners. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No.of Pkgs landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S.Wosang. | British. | China N.Co.,Ltd. consigned to B.I.S.N. | 16/8/43. | 16/8/43. | 3101 packages. | Kuwait. |
| S.S.Esang. | -do- | --do-- | 17/8/43. | 18/8/43. | 2501 " | " |
| S.S.Fooshing. | -do- | --do-- | 23/8/43. | 25/8/43. | 11009 " | " |
| S.S.Tsinan. | -do- | --do-- | 28/8/43. | 28/8/43. | 37 " | " |

Sgd. E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., Kuwait.

SECRET

Notes for Registry.
Extract para.167 to file about Rhoades' visit to Koweit.
2) PA

| | 19 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|
| Under Secretary... | 12-XI | [illegible] |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Pol. Committee | 12 | [illegible] |
| Under Secretary... | | |
| Secretary of State | | |
| Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext.6048/43
Ext.6049/43

Subject:

KOWEIT

Intelligence Summaries Nos.12 and 13
(June 16th to July 15th)

These Summaries are rather out of date, Summaries for August and the first half of September have already been received. Nevertheless paragraph 186 on Koweit shipping and economic conditions among the Bedouin is of considerable interest. Other paragraphs of interest are:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Para.165 | Trade. |
| " | 166 | Closing down of the barge assembly station. |
| " | 167 | Arrival of Mr. Rhoades of the Eastern Gulf Oil Company. |
| " | 184 | Supplies of cereals. |
| " | 190 | Grain deliveries to Saudi Arabia. |

M. Rodgers. 4/11.

For information.

Secretary/

17/xi
16/11
18/11
22/11/43
Seen Pol Cttee 24.11.43

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

Secretary, E.& O. Department,
To see paragraphs 165, 184, 185, 186 and 190.

Nov 9/XI

[initials] 5/XI



The question is being pursued as to the irregular receipt of these summaries.

[initials] 12/XI.

SECRET.

No. 14 of 1943.
KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 16TH TO 31ST JULY, 1 9 4 3.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

194. On the 18th seven British officers and 5 Indian other ranks of the 40th Indian Infantry Brigade arrived from Basra. The party returned on the 19th.
195. On the 31st Captain K.L. Gupta, I.A.M.C. and Mr.R.C. Micleod, I.A.M.C, arrived from Basra.
196. On the 27th Mr.P.D. Ince, Postal censor at Basra, arrived and called on the Political Agent. He returned on the 30th.

OTHER OFFICIALS.

197. On the 27th Captain Icke of the Persian Gulf Service Command arrived from Basra. He returned on the 30th.
198. Reference para 167 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1943.
On the 24th Mr. Rhoades left for Basra en route for the U.S.A. to consult his principals.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

199. On the 29th Shaikh Abdulla Salim as Subah, C.I.E., left for Failaicha Island.
200. On the 21st Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak, Director of Public Security returned from Baghdad where he had been for medical treatment.
201. On the 21st Shaikh Abdulla al Ahmad, in charge of the Arsenal, and Shaikh Abdulla Jabir, Chief Justice, lunched at the Political Agency.
202. On the evening of the 22nd the Political Agent attended a performance in Arabic of sketches from Fateh al Andalis (Conquest of Spain) by the masters and boys of the Mubarrakia school.
203. On 24th the Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdulla Jabir in his new house near the Agency.
204. On the 31st Shaikh Fahad as Salim, Director of Finance, Shaikh Subah as Salim, Commandant of Police and Shaikh Mubarrak al Hamad, Director of the Port Police, lunched at the Agency.

SAUDI AFFAIRS.

205. It is reported here that on the night of the 21st July, the women's quarters of the Amir Saud's palace in Ryadh were burnt to the ground. The entire household furnishings were lost but safes containing gold ornaments and jewellery and the more valuable articles of personal clothing are reported to have been saved.

206. Telegrams of condolence were sent by members of the As-Subah family to King Abdul Aziz on the death of his brother, Mohammad Abdul Rahman, in Ryadh on the 25th July, 1943.

PEARLING.

207. Some despondency was caused among brokers and divers here on receipt of telegrams from Bombay indicating that the import of pearls into India from Kuwait and Dubai had been prohibited. The market rallied, however, as all pearls were diverted to Bahrain which in any case absorbs the better quality pearls.

KUWAIT TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

208. The excellent automatic telephone system installed in the town by Messrs. Cable and Wireless, Limited, continues to give every satisfaction. It was opened in February, 1942, with 21 subscribers; by June, 1943, there were 93, and there are now 52 more applicants for telephones for whom instruments are not available.



TRADE.

209. In spite of the restriction of almost all trade goods to minimum quotas, certain Kuwait merchants are still managing to do business/

business. They find it easier to trade with such neutrals as Switzerland than with the U.K. or the U.S.A.. A consignment of watches and wireless sets was recently received here by parcel post from Switzerland via Vienna and Istanbul. The procedure appears to be for merchants to pay for their orders in advance by opening credits in Swiss francs with the Swiss Banking Corporation in Zurich, the francs being purchased with dollars obtained in Iran. The goods are then despatched by insured post to Istanbul via Vienna and reach Istanbul about 10 days after despatch. From Istanbul they are readdressed to Kuwait and take some 5 months to arrive. Most of the delay is reported to occur in Basra where it appears to be beyond the wit of the Iraqi Post Office to get the goods on ~~ik~~ to ships calling at Kuwait, and their regulations preclude the delivery of insured packages by any other means.

The wireless sets and the cheaper makes of watches have some sale in Kuwait, but the better watches go to Nejd. In attempting to satisfy their Nejdi customers the agents have difficulty in securing watches sufficiently elaborate and expensive to meet with their approval. Only gold, or rolled gold, waterproof and self-winding watches by the best known makers make any appeal - striking evidence of the wealth of Nejdi merchants and hangers-on of the court.

MOVEMENTS OF GOLD.

210. A note on the flow of gold through Kuwait by the Manager of the Kuwait Branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran is attached as appendix "A".

PRICES OF COMMODITIES.

211. Reference para 17 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. A further comparison of prices is given below:-

| | Sep.1939. | Jan.1943. | July 1943. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rice.(Bawli) | Rs.7/- a bag. | Rs.29/4 a bag. | Rs.29/4 a bag. |
| Wheat. | " 5/- a bag. | " 29/4 a bag. | " 33/13 a bag. |
| Dates. | As.12/- a basket. | " 8/- a basket. | " 10/- a basket. |
| Fodder(dry) | Rs.3/- a camel load. | " 24/- a camel ld. | " 9/- a camel ld. |
| Sugar. | Rs.8/- a bag. | " 75/- a bag. | " 76/8 a bag. |
| Tea. | Rs.3/- per 5 lbs. | " 14/8 per 5 lbs. | " 16/4 for 5 lbs. |
| Charcoal. | Rs.3/8 a bag. | " 25/- a bag. | " 22/- a bag. |
| Milk. | As.3/- a bottle. | As.10/- a bottle. | As.12/- a bottle. |
| Firewood(Palm wood). | Rs.4/- a 1000 pieces. | Rs.20/- a 1000 pieces. | Rs.22/- a 1000 pieces. |
| Mutton. | As.14/- per 5 lbs. | Rs.5/8 per 5 lbs. | Rs.4/- per 5 lbs. |
| Beef. | As.10/- --do-- | Rs.4/- --do-- | Rs.4/- --do-- |
| Fish. | Re.1/- per 10 lbs. | Rs.6/- per 10 lbs. | Rs.4/- per 10 lbs. |

ADDITIONAL ITEMS.

| | Sep.1939. | Jan.1943. | July 1943. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Japanese Cotton piecegoods, average. | As.2/- per yard. | | Rs.1/8 per yard. |
| Indian Cotton piecegoods, average. | As.3/- per yard. | | Rs.1/6 per yard. |
| Japanese woollen cloth. | Rs.3/- per yard. | | Rs.20/- per yard. |
| Tyres(lorry) | Rs.280/- each. | | Rs.3,500/- each. ) ** |
| Fanbelt Ford. | " 4/- each. | | " 60/- " ) ** |
| Coil Ford. | " 12/- " | | " 80/- " ) ** |

**N.B. These goods are not available in Kuwait and the prices given are those recently paid for purchases in Iraq and Saudi-Arabia.

METEOROLOGICAL.

212. Maximum temperature : 117

162
159

- 3 -

| | |
|---|---|
| Minimum temperature | : 81 |
| Maximum humidity | : 53 |

SHIPPING.

213. On the 16th s.s. Kweiyang arrived from Basra and left for India via the Gulf ports on the 17th.

214. On the 24th s.s. Baroda arrived from India with 211 tons of general cargo. She sailed for Abadan the next day.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Dated 3rd August, 1943.

(163)
160

## APPENDIX "A".

## NOTE ON TRAFFIC IN GOLD IN KUWAIT.

Supplies of gold in Kuwait are found principally in the form of English Sovereigns. Kuwaiti Sarrafs state that regular imports of sovereigns come from Nejdi Merchants for the purpose of buying goods here. It is difficult to obtain true estimates of the amounts of gold so imported. Quantities of course vary with demand for goods in Nejd and price levels for sovereigns in Kuwait but weekly amounts from several hundreds to a thousand or fifteen hundred are said to be available.

The principal market for sovereigns which find their way to Kuwait, is Iraq, and the price here fluctuates with the market price in Basra. Therefore it may be said that one of the chief supplies of Foreign Exchange in Kuwait is provided by the sale of sovereigns in Iraq. Dealers in Kuwait dispose of their gold to Basra Sarrafs and then draw on them in dinars which are offered for sale in this market. The dinars thus available provide cover in rupees for the remittances to India required by the merchants to finance their purchases of usual commodities.

The high price of gold ruling in Basra and the plentiful supply of sovereigns in Kuwait during the past year, has resulted in there being more dinars available here than the market could absorb, to such an extent that at one period the dinar was worth only Rs.11/4/- as against the par rate of about Rs.13/5/-.. This decrease was further aggravated by the fact that the period coincided with an almost complete cessation of the demand for rupees on India - the sailing craft having left India and no further orders for goods being placed at the time. Owing to a recent drop in gold prices in Basra and to other factors the price of dinars has now risen in Kuwait to Rs.13/-.

In addition to providing a source of Foreign Exchange here, dealings in gold have given the merchants a speculative investment which has taken the place, to a certain extent, of normal business dealings in goods; most of which are now rationed or subject to regulation.

-------------------

SECRET.

No.13 of 1943.



KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 1ST TO 15TH JULY, 1 9 4 3.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

171. On the 3rd the Political Agent accompanied Lieut-Col.H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, on his periodical inspection of the Burgan Oil wells. He also visited Shaikh Mohammad ibn Uthain of the Misra section of Ajman tribe camped on the water wells at Tawil.
172. The Political Agent visited Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., in Falaicha Island on the 15th and returned to Kuwait on the 16th.
173. Mr. T.E. Rogers of the Indian Political Service arrived on the 1st from Khorramshahr by this Agency launch and left on the 3rd.
174. On the 5th Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., Agency Assistant Surgeon, left for Basra en route to India on 3 months' leave.

MISCELLANEOUS OFFICIALS.

175. Reference para.167 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1943.
Mr. R.O. Rhoades left for Dharan on the 12th on a short visit to the California Arabian Standard Oil Company.

AVAIATION.

176. On the 6th a Lockhead Loadstar aircraft of the U.S.A.A.Forces based on Abadan made a successful forced landing in the desert 4 miles south of the town. Three of the crew were accommodated in the Agency. The aircraft left the next morning.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

177. On the 4th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., left for Falaicha Island.

He returned on 14th Aug

178. His Highness the Shaikh called on the Political Agent on the 8th and 12th.
The Political Agent dined with His Highness at the Dasman Palace on the 6th and His Highness dined at the Agency on the 13th.
179. The Political Agent paid courtesy calls on Shaikh Abdulla Jabir, Chief Justice, at the Law Courts on the 7th, and on Shaikh Subah as Salim, Chief of Police, on the 13th.
180. Shaikh Mohammad al Ahmed arrived from Basra on the 10th to discuss the registration of the Fao date gardens with his father, His Highness the Shaikh.
He called on the Political Agent and lunched at the Agency.
181. On the 2nd the Kuwait Government dispensed with the services of Abdul Latif Shamlan, the Director of Education.
One Aziz al Othman has been appointed to the post in a temporary capacity pending the appointment of a permanent successor.
182. The Kuwait Government also dismissed Saiyid Abdul Qadir bin Saiyid Mohammad, the Passport Officer, for allowing certain Persians to land without visas.
183. Reference para.164 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1943.
The Iraqi Superintendent of Police at Fao is reported to have arrested an armed gang of 11 men, who are alleged to have confessed before the Examining Judge of the Basra Liwa that they looted the dhows from Kuwait.

184. FOOD STOCKS.
Stocks of food are much reduced and rice is in very short supply. So much so that the Food Control Committee had no alternative but to agree to pay the very high price of £.85 per ton, ex-Baghdad, for 500 tons of Iraqi rice. Wheat flour is very much adulterated with millet and barley. It took so long to get delivery of the stocks of millet and barley from the U.K.C.C's agents here that most of the good wheat flour with which it was to have been mixed had to be consumed unadulterated.

185. PEARLING.

see para 227 4986/43

The first fruits of the pearling season are just coming in.
Pearls/

SECRET.

No.13 of 1943.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH JULY, 1 9 4 3.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

171. On the 3rd the Political Agent, accompanied Lieut-Col.H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, on his periodical inspection of the Burgan Oil wells. He also visited Shaikh Mohammed ibn Uthain of the Misra section of Ajman tribe camped on the water wells at Tawil.

172. The Political Agent visited Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., in Failaka Island on the 15th and returned to Kuwait on the 16th.

173. Mr. T.E. Rogers of the Indian Political Service arrived on the 1st from Khorramshahr by the Agency launch and left on the 3rd.

174. On the 5th Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., Agency Assistant Surgeon, left for Basra en route to India on 3 months' leave.

MISCELLANEOUS OFFICIALS.

175. Reference para.167 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1943. Mr. R.O. Rhoades left for Dharan on the 12th on a short visit to the California Arabian Standard Oil Company.

AVIATION.

176. On the 6th a Lockheed Loadstar aircraft of the U.S.A.A.Forces based on Abadan made a successful forced landing in the desert 4 miles south of the town. Three of the crew were accommodated in the Agency. The aircraft left the next morning.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

177. On the 4th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., left for Failaka Island.

178. His Highness the Shaikh called on the Political Agent on the 8th and 12th.

The Political Agent dined with His Highness at the Dasman Palace on the 6th and His Highness dined at the Agency on the 13th.

179. The Political Agent paid courtesy calls on Shaikh Abdulla Jabir, Chief Justice, at the Law Courts on the 7th, and on Shaikh Subah as Salim, Chief of Police, on the 13th.

180. Shaikh Mohammed al Ahmed arrived from Basra on the 10th to discuss the registration of the Fao date gardens with his father, His Highness the Shaikh.

He called on the Political Agent and lunched at the Agency.

181. On the 2nd the Kuwait Government dispensed with the services of Abdul Latif Shamlan, the Director of Education.

One Aziz al Othman has been appointed to the post in a temporary capacity pending the appointment of a permanent successor.

182. The Kuwait Government also dismissed Saiyid Abdul Qadir bin Saiyid Mohammed, the Passport Officer, for allowing certain Persians to land without visas.

183. Reference para.164 of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1943.

The Iraqi Superintendent of Police at Fao is reported to have arrested an armed gang of 11 men, who are alleged to have confessed before the Examining Judge of the Basra Liwa that they looted the dhows from Kuwait.

184. FOOD STOCKS.

Stocks of food are much reduced and rice is in very short supply. So much so that the Food Control Committee had no alternative but to agree to pay the very high price of £.85 per ton, ex-Baghdad, for 500 tons of Iraqi rice. Wheat flour is very much adulterated with millet and barley. It took so long to get delivery of the stocks of millet and barley from the U.K.C.C's agents here that most of the good wheat flour with which it was to have been mixed had to be consumed unadulterated.

185. PEARLING.

The first fruits of the pearling season are just coming in.

Pearls/

Pearls are reported to be plentiful and of good quality and the market is better than last year. High operating costs, however, are expected to offset the advantages of a good catch and good markets.

186. THE CARRYING TRADE AND OTHER ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The deep sea sailors of Kuwait, on the other hand, have had an exceptionally good year. High freights have made substantial profits possible. Whereas before the war a captain who could pay his sailors Rs.150/- each as their share of the profits of the season's voyages was considered to have done very well, this year the highest shares paid amounted to Rs.1200/-. While such shares were exceptional, shares of Rs.600/- to Rs.700/- appear to have been general. Some captains succeeded in making three return trips to India instead of the more usual two; others, lured by the exceptional freights, attempted to but, dangerously delayed in Bombay, they were caught by the early monsoon storms. Two booms were sunk, one on her maiden voyage, with the loss of 24 lives. Three got back to Bombay and are still there. Had it not been for the high freights obtainable the greatly increased cost of provisions, and particularly of ship's gear of all kinds, would have made the operation of booms impossible this year.

The cost of building them has also greatly increased. A boom of a capacity of 2500 baskets of 180 lbs of dates, which before the war might have cost Rs.15000/- to build, today costs Rs.70000/-. The increased cost of wood and labour and the high price of iron nails have caused this. Iron is no longer obtainable from India and Kuwait has had to turn for supplies to an old steel barge, wrecked many years ago, which is being broken up with some difficulty.

Recent profits and the belief that they will continue have led owners to lay down eleven new booms this year, four of them of a capacity of 4500 baskets and over. Six have already been completed of which three have made their maiden voyages and one has been sunk. There are five more nearing completion.

It is well, in view of the increased cost of food, that some of the inhabitants of Kuwait have had such accessions to their incomes. The Bedouin resident in the vicinity have not been so fortunate. It is true that their wool, ghi and meat on the hoof have greatly appreciated in value; but sales of such high quality food and clothing are not an unmixed blessing. They are only possible as long as there are adequate supplies of cheap clothing and cheap staple commodities available to replace them. Today this is not the case. Second-hand American woollen clothes and Indian cotton piecegoods, on which the Bedouin rely to enable them to sell their own high quality wool for export, are, in the first case, not available at all and in the second case, expensive. As regards food, there is no rice for distribution outside the town; inferior Iraqi barley and millet cost more than good Indian wheat and the imports of vegetable ghi from India have been reduced from 174 tons last year to a quota of 10 tons for this. Further, the phenomenal prices paid last year by the Army in Iraq for meat on the hoof were not passed on to the Kuwait Bedouin from whom some of the animals were bought. Iraqi middlemen saw to that. Before the Bedouin can buy their requirements of grain, however, it must pass through many agencies responsible for putting up the price, not the least of them being the U.K.C.C.. They are tending, therefore, more and more to eat their own food products which, however good in quality, do not include any grain and are insufficient in quantity to meet their requirements.

There are many bedouin, however, much more unfortunate than those owning flocks. I refer to those who lost their flocks entirely, or had them reduced to insignificant proportions, in the droughts of 1941 and 1942. Some of these are entirely without means of subsistence other than charity. They are now encamped round the town and live by begging from house to house, an additional burden on the town's food supplies.

Col. Dickson, who is in very close touch with the Bedouin of Kuwait and East Saudi Arabia, is convinced that the mortality rate among children and the aged from Tuberculosis and Phthisis, aggravated by under nourishment, has greatly increased during the last two years. He puts the mortality rate among children between

the ages/

- 2 -

Pearls are reported to be plentiful and of good quality and the market is better than last year. High operating costs, however, are expected to offset the advantages of a good catch and good markets.

186. THE CARRYING TRADE AND OTHER ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The deep sea sailors of Kuwait, on the other hand, have had an exceptionally good year. High freights have made substantial profits possible. Whereas before the war a captain who could pay his sailors Rs.150/- each as their share of the profits of the season's voyages was considered to have done very well, this year the highest shares paid amounted to Rs.1200/-. While such shares were exceptional, shares of Rs.600/- to Rs.700/- appear to have been general. Some captains succeeded in making three return trips to India instead of the more usual two; others, lured by the exceptional freights, attempted to but, dangerously delayed in Bombay, they were caught by the early monsoon storms. Two booms were sunk, one on her maiden voyage, with the loss of 24 lives. Three got back to Bombay and are still there. Had it not been for the high freights obtainable the greatly increased cost of provisions, and particularly of ship's gear of all kinds, would have made the operation of booms impossible this year.

The cost of building them has also greatly increased. A boom of a capacity of 2500 baskets of 180 lbs of dates, which before the war might have cost Rs.15000/- to build, today costs Rs.70000/-. The increased cost of wood and labour and the high price of iron nails have caused this. Iron is no longer obtainable from India and Kuwait has had to turn for supplies to an old steel barge, wrecked many years ago, which is being broken up with some difficulty.

Recent profits and the belief that they will continue have led owners to lay down eleven new booms, four of them of a capacity of 4500 baskets and over. Six have already been completed of which three have made their maiden voyages and one has been sunk. There are five more nearing completion.

It is well, in view of the increased cost of food, that some of the inhabitants of Kuwait have had such accessions to their incomes. The Bedouin resident in the vicinity have not been so fortunate. It is true that their wool, ghi and meat on the hoof have greatly appreciated in value; but sales of such high quality food and clothing are not an unmixed blessing. They are only possible as long as there are adequate supplies of cheap clothing and cheap staple commodities available to replace them. Today this is not the case. Second-hand American woollen clothes and Indian cotton piecegoods, on which the Bedouin rely to enable them to sell their own high quality wool for export, are, in the first case, not available at all and in the second case, expensive. As regards food, there is no rice for distribution outside the town; inferior Iraqi barley and millet cost more than good Indian wheat and the imports of vegetable ghi from India have been reduced from 174 tons last year to a quota of 10 tons for this. Further, the phenomenal prices paid last year by the Army in Iraq for meat on the hoof were not passed on to the Kuwait Bedouin from whom some of the animals were bought. Iraqi middlemen saw to that. Before the Bedouin can buy their requirements of grain, however, it must pass through many agencies responsible for putting up the price, not the least of them being the U.K.C.C.. They are tending, therefore, more and more to eat their own food products which, however good in quality, do not include any grain and are insufficient in quantity to meet their requirements.

There are many bedouin, however, much more unfortunate than those owning flocks. I refer to those who lost their flocks entirely, or had them reduced to insignificant proportions, in the droughts of 1941 and 1942. Some of these are entirely without means of subsistence other than charity. They are now encamped round the town and live by begging from house to house, an additional burden on the town's food supplies.

Col. Dickson, who is in very close touch with the Bedouin of Kuwait and East Saudi Arabia, is convinced that the mortality rate among children and the aged from Tuberculosis and Phthisis, aggravated by under nourishment, has greatly increased during the last two years. He puts the mortality rate among children between

the ages/

the ages of 1 to 4 years at 60%.
187. In view of their straightened circumstances, His Highness the Shaikh has remitted the annual Zakat tax in respect of all Kuwaiti bedouin this year.

188. SAUDI INTERESTS.

On the 6th Abdul Aziz al Nafici, the Saudi Arabian representative in Kuwait, paid a courtesy call on the Political Agent.
189. Mohammad bin Sultan, Ameer of Jarya, arrived here on the 11th July. He has been sent by His Majesty King Abdul Aziz to move all Nedji tribes, at present in Kuwait pastures, back to Nedj for the collection of the Zakat tax.

190. GRAIN DELIVERIES FOR EAST SAUDI ARABIA.

On the 15th June, s.s."Bamla" landed 500 tons of wheat for East Saudi Arabia, for the June quota, and 500 tons for July. The consignment was handed over to the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent.

191. EXCHANGE RATES.

The following were the rates of exchange on the 15th:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs.12/1/6. |
| 1 M.T.Silver Thaler | = | Rs. 2/10/-. |
| 1 Gold sovereign | = | Rs.70/12/-. |

192. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 112 |
| Minimum temperature | : | 81 |
| Humidity | : | 43 |

193. SHIPPING.

On the 8th s.s."Kweiyang" arrived from India and left for Khorramshahr on the 9th.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th July, 1943.

- 3 -

the ages of 1 to 4 years at 60%.

187. In view of their straightened circumstances, His Highness the Shaikh has remitted the annual Zakat tax in respect of all Kuwaiti bedouin this year.

188. SAUDI INTERESTS.

On the 6th Abdul Aziz al Nafisi, the Saudi Arabian representative in Kuwait, paid a courtesy call on the Political Agent.

189. Mohammad bin Sultan, Ameer of Jarya, arrived here on the 11th July. He has been sent by His Majesty King Abdul Aziz to move all Nejdi tribes, at present in Kuwait pastures, back to Nejd for the collection of the Zakat tax.

190. GRAIN DELIVERIES FOR EAST SAUDI ARABIA.

On the 15th June, s.s."Bamora" landed 500 tons of wheat for East Saudi Arabia, for the June quota, and 500 tons for July. The consignment was handed over to the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent.

191. EXCHANGE RATES.

The following were the rates of exchange on the 15th:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs. 12/1/6. |
| 1 M.T.Silver Thaler | = | Rs. 2/10/-. |
| 1 Gold sovereign | = | Rs.70/12/-. |

192. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 112 |
| Minimum temperature | : | 81 |
| Humidity | : | 45 |

193. SHIPPING.

On the 8th s.s."Kweiyang" arrived from India and left for Khorramshahr on the 9th.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th July, 1943.

SECRET.

No.12 of 1943.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th June, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

158. On the 20th Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra en route to India on a month's leave after handing over charge of his office to G.N. Jackson, Esquire, of the Indian Political Service.

Major Hickinbotham returned on 6th Aug. He has since been transferred to Bahrein

159. The Political Agent called on His Highness on the 22nd and was entertained by His Highness to dinner at the Dasman Palace on the same evening.
His Highness dined at the Agency on the 29th.

160. Colonel Metcalf and Major Wilkinson of No.1 Base Workshop arrived Kuwait from Basra on the 26th June and returned the same day.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

161. On the 17th Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company Limited arrived from Abadan in an Anglo-Iranian Oil Company plane. He returned to Abadan on the 20th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

162. Reference para.148 of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1943.
Shaikh Salim al Hamood as Subah returned from Baghdad on the 22nd much improved in health.

163. Shaikh Fahad as Salim as Subah, Director of Finance, paid a courtesy call on the Political Agent on the 28th.

164. The crews of two sailing craft carrying bitumen from Kuwait to Basra for the military authorities were robbed in the Shatt-al-Arab during the period under review. The boats were tied up at al Dowsa for the night when they were boarded by Iraqi thieves. The crews' rations and about Rs.1000/- in cash were removed. The boats returned to Fao and reported the matter to the Police who collected money for the crews and arranged for a military launch to tow the dhows to Basra.

see para 183 above

165. Trade in Kuwait has been at a standstill during the period under review and retail prices have to some extent followed wholesale prices down. At least one speculator has been declared a bankrupt and is now in prison, other more orthodox merchants are in difficulties.
A committee of five leading merchants of the town has been appointed to examine such cases.
The controlled prices of essential commodities which are rationed have not of course been affected.

166. Reference para.113 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1943.
The barge assembly station at Shuwaikh was closed down on the 27th and Captain Icke of the Persian Gulf Service Command and his staff left for Basra the next day. All the equipment has been removed. Captain Icke paid a farewell call on His Highness before leaving.

167. KUWAIT SULPHUR. Mr.R.O. Rhoades of the Eastern Gulf Oil Company Ltd. and a director of the Kuwait Oil Company Ltd. arrived by air from England on the 17th. He has come to make certain preliminary investigations to determine whether the Kuwait sulphur deposits are sufficiently concentrated to make development on a commercial scale practicable. It is understood that if the result of the investigations is satisfactory heavy equipment for the immediate development of the field and the erection of the necessary refinery will be made available from the United States of America.

168. PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND. A sum of Rs.95,016/5/- has so far been collected. The total sum collected was broadcast in the London Arabic programme and the names of donors of Rs.500/- and over were also announced from Bahrain. The broadcasts were well received locally.

METEOROLOGICAL. Maximum temperature : 112
Minimum temperature : 78
Average humidity : 60

SHIPPING. On the 20th s.s."Esang" arrived from India via the Gulf ports. She left for Khorramshahr on the 21st.

4th July, 1943.

Sgd. G. N. Jackson,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

FILE COPY

SECRET.

No.12 of 1943.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th June, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

158. On the 20th Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra en route to India on a months leave after handing over charge of his office to G.N. Jackson, Esquire, of the Indian Political Service.

159. The Political Agent called on His Highness on the 22nd and was entertained by His Highness to dinner at the Dasman Palace on the same evening.
His Highness dined at the Agency on the 29th.

160. Colonel Metcalf and Major Wilkinson of No.1 Base Workshop arrived Kuwait from Basra on the 26th June and returned the same day.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

161. On the 17th Mr.L.D. Scott, M.C, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company Limited arrived from Abadan in an Anglo-Iranian Oil Company plane. He returned to Abadan on the 20th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

162. Reference para.148 of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1943.
Shaikh Salim al Hamood as Subah returned from Baghdad on the 22nd much improved in health.

163. Shaikh Fahad as Salim as Subah, Director of Finance, paid a courtesy call on the Political Agent on the 28th.

164. The crews of two sailing crafts carrying bitumen from Kuwait to Basra for the military authorities were robbed in the Shatt-al-Arab during the period under review. The boats were tied up at al Dowsa for the night when they were boarded by Iraqi thieves. The crews' rations and about Rs.1000/- in cash were removed. The boats returned to Fao and reported the matter to the Police who collected money for the crews and arranged for a military launch to tow the dhows to Basra.

165. Trade in Kuwait has been at a standstill during the period under review and retail prices have to some extent followed wholesale prices down. At least one speculator has been declared a bankrupt and is now in prison, other more orthodox merchants are in difficulties.
A committee of five leading merchants of the town has been appointed to examine such cases.
The controlled prices of essential commodities which are rationed have not of course been affected.

166. Reference para.115 of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1943.
The barge assembly station at Shuwaikh was closed down on the 27th and Captain Icke of the Persian Gulf Service Command and his staff left for Basra the next day. All the equipment has been removed. Captain Icke paid a farewell call on His Highness before leaving.

167. KUWAIT SULPHUR. Mr.R.C. Rhoades of the Eastern Gulf Oil Company Ltd. and a director of the Kuwait Oil Company Ltd. arrived by air from England on the 17th. He has come to make certain preliminary investigations to determine whether the Kuwait sulphur deposits are sufficiently concentrated to make development on a commercial scale practicable. It is understood that if the result of the investigations is satisfactory heavy equipment for the immediate development of the field and the erection of the necessary refinery will be made available from the United States of America.

168. PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND. A sum of Rs.35,016/5/- has so far been collected. The total sum collected was broadcast in the London Arabic programme and the names of donors of Rs.500/- and over were also announced from Bahrain. The broadcasts were well received locally.

METEOROLOGICAL. Maximum temperature : 112
Minimum temperature : 78
Average humidity : 60

SHIPPING. On the 20th s.s."Tasang" arrived from India via the Gulf ports. She left for Khorramshahr on the 21st.

Sgd. G.N. Jackson
Political Agent, Kuwait.

4th July, 1943.

165 (168)

Mr Palmer.

Is there any explanation why Summary 11 has only just been received & Summaries 12–14 have not arrived.

If not I think we shd ask the P.A. to try & improve matters.

[initials] 12/10.

Pl. let me see again on return from circulation.

[initials] 12/10.

Mr Harrison,

No explanation.

The Gulf & Persia mails are irregular & I think the cause is probably delay in Cairo – at any rate that has been expressed by the F.O –

[initials] 17/10

**DRAFTS**

Box No.

FROM
POLITICAL AND SECRET DEPARTMENT
—TO—
SIR R. I. R. GLANCY.
SIR A. PARSONS.
SIR H. WILLIAMSON.

SECRET

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1943 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 20. x | | 
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | W | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext.5585/43
Ext.5641/43

SUBJECT:

KOWEIT

Intelligence Summaries Nos.11 and 17
(June 1st to 15th and Sept.1st to 15th)

Summaries Nos. 12, 13 and 14 have not yet been received. Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

| Para. 151 | Date gardens case. |
|---|---|
| " 152 | Supplies for Koweit. |
| " 154 | Supplies for Saudi Arabia. |
| " 155 | Fall in prices. |
| " 258 | Proposal to reopen R. A. F. Wireless Station. |

M. Odgers.
11/10.

E. & O. 6501 1943

Secretary, E. & O. Dept.,
To see paras. 152 to 155.

It seems a stupid procedure to send cereals into Koweit without at the same time sending instructions to the Agent for their disposal.

Seen Pol Cttee 29.10.43

(22220) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 11 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th June, 1943.

-------

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

139. Reference paragraph 129 of Kuwait Summary No. 10 of 1943. The Political Agent returned from Iran via Basrah on the 11th.

140. On the 15th Major A.C. Stewart, O.B.E., Consul-designate, Khorramshahr, arrived in the s.s."Barala" from India and left for Basrah on the 16th by road.

141. Mr. G.N. Jackson, who is to officiate as Political Agent, Kuwait, arrived from Basrah by road on the 15th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

142. Mr. E.S. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Kuwait, left for Basrah on the 3rd and returned on the 5th. His visit was to collect a sum of rupees four lakhs which had arrived from India.

143. KING'S BIRTHDAY. In accordance with instructions received, the usual reception was not held but the Agency flagstaff was dressed. Flags were flown on all the Government buildings.

144. AVIATION.

Ext 4514/43. Reference para. 123 of Kuwait summary No.9 of 1943. The Blenheim was repaired and flown off to Shaibah on the 7th.

On the 5th an aircraft of the DAKOTA type forcelanded. The plane was repaired and took off the next morning. Accommodation was arranged for the twenty six occupants of the plane.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

Ext 4192/43. 145. Reference para. 108 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943. His Highness the Shaikh returned to Dasman on the 3rd.

146. On the 12th Shaikh Abdulla Mubarrak, Director of Public Security and Shaikh Fahad as-Salim, Director of Finance, paid courtesy calls on the Political Agent.

147. On the 30th of May Abdulla Mulla Saleh, His Highness' Secretary, left for Basrah en route to Baghdad and returned on the 8th of June. The purpose of his visit was said to be for medical treatment.

148. Shaikh Salim al Hamood as-Subah left for Baghdad on the 2nd for medical treatment.

149. News was received here during the period under report that two Kuwait dhows were lost in a gale on the 23rd of May in the Indian Ocean. One of the dhows belonged to Haji Thaniyan al Ghanim and was on its maiden voyage. Twenty four of the crew of thirty six were drowned including the nakhuda. The other dhow was owned by Khalid Abdul Latif al Hamad and Brothers in partnership with Yusuf al Saqar. The nakhuda and the crew were picked up by a passing dhow and brought ashore safely. It is reported that more than three hundred sailing vessels were lost or damaged in this storm.

150. On the 15th one Muhammad Abdur Razak a Kuwaiti subject demanded an interview with the Political Agent. He stated that he had been sent to Kuwait by the S.I.B. Baghdad to investigate thefts of Army clothing. He produced some socks he had obtained by misrepresentation from a local dealer. As he was unable to prove his association with the S.I. Branch he was advised not to interfere with the local merchants. From his appearance he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol but the Political Agent later learnt that he was mentally defective and his relations have been called upon to give sureties for his good behaviour.

151/.

SECRET. FILE COPY No. 11 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period
from 1st to 15th June, 1943.

-------

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

139. Reference paragraph 129 of Kuwait Summary No. 10 of 1943. The Political Agent returned from Iran via Basrah on the 11th.

140. On the 15th Major A.C. Stewart, O.B.E., Consul-designate, Khorramshahr, arrived in the s.s."Barala" from India and left for Basrah on the 16th by road.

141. Mr. G.N. Jackson, who is to officiate as Political Agent, Kuwait, arrived from Basrah by road on the 15th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

142. Mr. E.S. Matheson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Kuwait, left for Basrah on the 3rd and returned on the 5th. His visit was to collect a sum of rupees four lakhs which had arrived from India.

143. KING'S BIRTHDAY. In accordance with instructions received, the usual reception was not held but the Agency flagstaff was dressed. Flags were flown on all the Government buildings.

144. AVIATION.

Reference para. 123 of Kuwait summary No.9 of 1943. The Blenheim was repaired and flown off to Shaibah on the 7th.

On the 5th an aircraft of the DAKOTA type forcelanded. The plane was repaired and took off the next morning. Accommodation was arranged for the twenty six occupants of the plane.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

145. Reference para. 108 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943. His Highness the Shaikh returned to Desman on the 3rd.

146. On the 12th Shaikh Abdulla Mubarrak, Director of Public Security and Shaikh Fahed as-Salim, Director of Finance, paid courtesy calls on the Political Agent.

147. On the 30th of May Abdulla Mulla Saleh, His Highness' Secretary, left for Basrah en route to Baghdad and returned on the 8th of June. The purpose of his visit was said to be for medical treatment.

148. Shaikh Salim al Hamood as-Subah left for Baghdad on the 2nd for medical treatment.

149. News was received here during the period under report that two Kuwait dhows were lost in a gale on the 23rd of May in the Indian Ocean. One of the dhows belonged to Haji Thaniyan al Ghanim and was on its maiden voyage. Twenty four of the crew of thirty six were drowned including the nakhuda. The other dhow was owned by Khalid Abdul Latif al Hamad and Brothers in partnership with Yusuf al Saqar. The nakhuda and the crew were picked up by a passing dhow and brought ashore safely. It is reported that more than three hundred sailing vessels were lost or damaged in this storm.

150. On the 15th one Muhammad Abdur Razak a Kuwaiti subject demanded an interview with the Political Agent. He stated that he had been sent to Kuwait by the S.I.B. Baghdad to investigate thefts of Army clothing. He produced some socks he had obtained by misrepresentation from a local dealer. As he was unable to prove his association with the S.I. Branch he was advised not to interfere with the local merchants. From his appearance he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol but the Political Agent later learnt that he was mentally defective and his relations have been called upon to give sureties for his good behaviour.

151/.

168 (171)

- 2 -

151. DATE GARDENS.

Reference para.102 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1943.
The Court of Cassation has rejected the Kuwait appeal in the Bashiyah case. This was not unexpected. Arrangements are in train to file a suit for the return of the original purchase price and an injunction has been obtained to restrain those now in possession of the garden from disposing of the garden until the suit has been heard and determined.

152. SUPPLIES.
Reference para.130 of Kuwait summary No. 10 of 1943.
240 tons of barley 100 tons of gram and 100 tons millet arrived on the 22nd of May consigned to Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company as agents for the U.K.C.C. Unfortunately Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company had instructions not to deliver the consignment to the Kuwait Government pending further instructions so that the arrival of these cereals has been of little practical benefit. In spite of representations delivery has not yet been obtained and in consequence here pure wheat bread is being baked to the joy of the people but to the detriment of our by no means ample stocks of wheat.

153. The arrival of 500 tons of Indian wheat ex the s.s.Barala on the 15th has given much ~~satisfactory~~ satisfaction as Indian wheat is preferred to Australian. It is to be hoped that delivery can be arranged from the agents here reasonably quickly.

Ext 4192/43

154. Reference para.115 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943.
The Saudi Arabian supplies position has taken a decided turn for the better as 500 tons of wheat have been despatched by the U.K.C.C. from Basrah for the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent here and 1000 tons of wheat for Saudi Arabia were discharged from the s.s. Barala on the 15th. Unfortunately the local agents of the U.K.C.C. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company have refused to hand the consignments over to the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent as they have not received any instructions to do so from their principals.

155. There has been a general fall in the prices of commodities. Tea has declined from Rs.220 to Rs.130 a hundred pound case and coffee an average of Rs.45 a bag. The fall in prices is attributed to the dull tone of the Basrah market as a result of the Iraq Government's recent measures, a weakening of the Indian market and the "freezing" of all goods in the Persian Customs.

156. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 101 |
| Minimum temperature: | 72 |
| Humidity : | 63 |

157. SHIPPING.

On the 15th the s.s.Barala arrived and discharged 1,500 tons of wheat from India for Eastern Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,

Dated the 18th June, 1943. Political Agent, Kuwait.

(171)

- 2 -

151. DATE GARDENS.

Reference para.102 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1943. The Court of Cassation has rejected the Kuwait appeal in the Bashiyah case. This was not unexpected. Arrangements are in train to file a suit for the return of the original purchase price and an injunction has been obtained to restrain those now in possession of the garden from disposing of the garden until the suit has been heard and determined.

152. SUPPLIES.

Reference para.130 of Kuwait summary No. 10 of 1943. 240 tons of barley 100 tons of gram and 100 tons millet arrived on the 22nd of May consigned to Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company as agents for the U.K.C.C. Unfortunately Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company had instructions not to deliver the consignment to the Kuwait Government pending further instructions so that the arrival of these cereals has been of little practical benefit. In spite of representations delivery has not yet been obtained and in consequence here pure wheat bread is being caked to the joy of the people but to the detriment of our by no means ample stocks of wheat.

153. The arrival of 500 tons of Indian wheat ex the s.s.Barala on the 15th has given much ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ satisfaction as Indian wheat is preferred to Australian. It is to be hoped that delivery can be arranged from the agents here reasonably quickly.

154. Reference para.115 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943. The Saudi Arabian supplies position has taken a decided turn for the better as 500 tons of wheat have been despatched by the U.K.C.C. from Basrah for the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent here and 1000 tons of wheat for Saudi Arabia were discharged from the s.s. Barala on the 15th. Unfortunately the local agents of the U.K.C.C. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie and Company have refused to hand the consignments over to the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent as they have not received any instructions to do so from their principals.

155. There has been a general fall in the prices of commodities. Tea has declined from Rs.220 to Rs.130 a hundred pound case and coffee an average of Rs.45 a bag. The fall in prices is attributed to the dull tone of the Basrah market as a result of the Iraq Government's recent measures, a weakening of the Indian market and the "freezing" of all goods in the Persian Customs.

156. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 101 |
| Minimum temperature: | 72 |
| Humidity : | 63 |

157. SHIPPING.

On the 15th the s.s.Barala arrived and discharged 1,500 tons of wheat from India for Eastern Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Dated the 18th June, 1943.

Secret

169
(172)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1943 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | P.A. Committee | 19.8 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 4514/43

Ext 4519/43.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT:- Intelligence Summaries Nos 9 & 10. (May 1943.)

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

124. Ratification of agreements between Koweit and Saudi Arabia.

126. Koweiti dhow detained at Bombay by the Naval Authorities.

130. Delay in the delivery of barley from Iraq.

134. Reported bombing of two local dhows carrying petrol from Koweit to Masira⁺ ⁺off S.E. coast of Oman

25 viii

Seen Political Office 26.8.43

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

under Charter to the R.A.F.

135. Good treatment of Koweitis in India.

136. Health of H.H. the Sheikh.

M. Rodgers.
13/8.

Secretary E&O Dept. [initials] 17/8

See paragraph 130.

E.W.R. Lumby.
16. viii. 43.

SECRET.

FILE COPY

No. 10 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st May, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

129. On the 23rd the Political Agent left for Bushire by S.S. "Baroda" en route to Tehran on a short visit.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

130. The delay in delivering M.E.S.C. supplies of barley from Iraq has caused serious disappointment and difficulty. Supplies for delivery in April had not arrived on the 22nd of May and by the 20th of May no part of the April quota had even been collected in Basra for shipment. Kuwait has no large reserves of grain on deposit and owing to failure to supply the monthly quota of 808 tons is rapidly consuming the balance in her current account which she had hoped to maintain against a rainy day in the future. If there are further delays there is every likelihood of a very serious situation arising.

131. Nasir Maghawi, the Officer in charge of the Rationing Office has been suspended and called upon to explain certain doubtful items in his accounts to a specially appointed Committee of Investigation.

132. Reference paragraph 114 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943. So far one hundred and sixteen boats have registered crews totalling two thousand four hundred and fifty men. It is anticipated that this figure will be very much exceeded.

133. Shaikh Fahad As Salim As Subah married the daughter of Shaikh Saud as Subah on May the 20th. Shaikh Fahad the son of His Highness' immediate predecessor had the misfortune to have a negress for a mother and not being of pure Subah blood had been debarred from marrying a lady from that family. However, partly due to Shaikh Fahad's personal influence and partly to the intrigues of the girl's mother, who has secured a large new house now in process of construction on the sea front as a gift for her daughter and a paper signed by His Highness and the leading As Subah that any issue of the marriage will be accepted as pure blooded members of the tribe for matrimonial purposes, the ancient rule was set aside and His Highness authorised the marriage.

134. Two local dhows chartered by the Royal Air Force to carry petrol from Kuwait to Masira Island are said to have been bombed twelve miles north of the island. On the 2nd of February at about 11-30 a.m three planes examined them, two flew away and one flew low, dived, and dropped a bomb between them then turned and dropped another and flew off in the direction of Masira. The nakhudas of the dhows say they went to see the Officer-in-Charge at Masira when they arrived there but were told he was away and his assistant would not see them. This story has not created a good impression locally.

135. Two reports have recently given much pleasure to His Highness the Shaikh and the Kuwait people. They were from two travellers recently returned from India who said how well treated Kuwaitis were in India where they are free to come and go as they please without police restrictions. One of the travellers was Ahmad bin Saiyid Hamad al Naqib who complained of the distinction made between Iraqis and Kuwaitis, the former being required to report their movements to the police while the latter were not required to do so. His Highness the Shaikh reminded the young man that it is but two years since Iraq was in arms against the British and he was an officer of Rashid Ali's army.



136./

SECRET. No. 10 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st May, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

129. On the 23rd the Political Agent left for Bushire by S.S. "Baroda" en route to Tehran on a short visit.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

130. The delay in delivering M.E.S.C. supplies of barley from Iraq has caused serious disappointment and difficulty. Supplies for delivery in April had not arrived on the 22nd of May and by the 20th of May no part of the April quota had even been collected in Basra for shipment. Kuwait has no large reserves of grain on deposit and owing to failure to supply the monthly quota of 808 tons is rapidly consuming the balance in her current account which she had hoped to maintain against a rainy day in the future. If there are further delays there is every likelihood of a very serious situation arising.

131. Nasir Naghawi, the Officer in charge of the Rationing Office has been suspended and called upon to explain certain doubtful items in his accounts to a specially appointed Committee of Investigation.

132. Reference paragraph 114 of Kuwait summary No. 8 of 1943. So far one hundred and sixteen boats have registered crews totalling two thousand four hundred and fifty men. It is anticipated that this figure will be very much exceeded.

133. Shaikh Fehad As Salim As Subah married the daughter of Shaikh Saud as Subah on May the 20th. Shaikh Fahad the son of His Highness' immediate predecessor had the misfortune to have a negress for a mother and not being of pure Subah blood had been debarred from marrying a lady from that family. However, partly due to Shaikh Fahad's personal influence and partly to the intrigues of the girl's mother, who has secured a large new house now in process of construction on the sea front as a gift for her daughter and a paper signed by His Highness and the leading As Subah that any issue of the marriage will be accepted as pure blooded members of the tribe for matrimonial purposes, the ancient rule was set aside and His Highness authorised the marriage.

134. Two local dhows chartered by the Royal Air Force to carry petrol from Kuwait to Masira Island are said to have been bombed twelve miles north of the Island. On the 2nd of February at about 11-30 a.m three planes examined them, two flew away and one flew low, dived, and dropped a bomb between them then turned and dropped another and flew off in the direction of Masira. The nakhudas of the dhows say they went to see the Officer-in-Charge at Masira when they arrived there but were told he was away and his assistant would not see them. This story has not created a good impression locally.

135. Two reports have recently given much pleasure to His Highness the Shaikh and the Kuwait people. They were from two travellers recently returned from India who said how well treated Kuwaitis were in India where they are free to come and go as they please without police restrictions. One of the travellers was Ahmad bin Saiyid Hamad al Naqib who complained of the distinction made between Iraqis and Kuwaitis, the former being required to report their movements to the police while the latter were not required to do so. His Highness the Shaikh reminded the young man that it is but two years since Iraq was in arms against the British and he was an officer of Rashid Ali's army.

136./

174

-2-

136. On the 17th Dr. Maclean of the A.I.O.C Ltd visited Kuwait with an electro Cardiograph to make an examination of the Shaikh's heart. The instrument has been procured by the Company from England through the efforts of one of their Directors, Mr. J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., The examination revealed that the heart had sustained serious damage last year, in fact more serious than had been thought, but a good recovery has been made. The Shaikh's medical adviser Dr. L.R. Scudder, M.D., is, on the whole, pleased with the result though he points out that another and probably fatal attack may occur at any time.

137. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 104 |
| Minimum temperature: | 74 |
| Humidity : | 75 |

138. SHIPPING.

| Name of vessel. | Date of arrival. | Port from which arrived. | Date of departure. |
|---|---|---|---|
| s.s. "Kweiyang" | 19/5 | Bahrain. | 20/5 |
| s.s. "Baroda" | 22/5 | Khorramshahr. | 23/5 |
| s.s. "Wosang" | 26/5 | - do - | 27/5 |

2nd June, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET.

No. 10 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st May, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

129. On the 23rd the Political Agent left for Bushire by s.s. "Baroda" en route to Tehran on a short visit.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

130. The delay in delivering M.E.S.C. supplies of barley from Iraq has caused serious disappointment and difficulty. Supplies for delivery in April had not arrived on the 22nd of May and by the 30th of May no part of the April quota had even been collected

-2-

136. On the 17th Dr. Maclean of the A.I.O.C Ltd visited Kuwait with an electro Cardiograph to make an examination of the Shaikh's heart. The instrument has been procured by the Company from England through the efforts of one of their Directors, Mr. J.A. Jameson, C.B.E.,. The examination revealed that the heart had sustained serious damage last year, in fact more serious than had been thought, but a good recovery has been made. The Shaikh's medical adviser Dr. L.M. Scudder, M.D., is, on the whole, pleased with the result though he points out that another and probably fatal attack may occur at any time.

137. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 104
Minimum temperature: 74
Humidity : 75

138. SHIPPING.

| Name of vessel. | Date of arrival. | Port from which arrived. | Date of departure. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| s.s. "Kweiyang" | 19/5 | Bahrain. | 20/5 |
| s.s. "Baroda" | 23/5 | Khorramshahr. | 23/5 |
| s.s. "[illegible]osang" | 26/5 | - do - | 27/5 |

2nd June, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

locally.

135. Two reports have recently given much pleasure to His Highness the Shaikh and the Kuwait people. They were from two travellers recently returned from India who said how well treated Kuwaitis were in India where they are free to come and go as they please without police restrictions. One of the travellers was Ahmad bin Saiyid Hamed al Naqib who complained of the distinction made between Iraqis and Kuwaitis, the former being required to report their movements to the police while the latter were not required to do so. His Highness the Shaikh reminded the young man that it is but two years since Iraq was in arms against the British and he was an officer of Rashid Ali's army.

136./

SECRET. No. 9 of 1943. (5)



50/45 (2)

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May, 1943.

Com 7/8 - 4228 4192

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

121. Mr. W.H. Lock,* Representative of Ministry of War Transport Basrah visited Kuwait on the 2nd.

* Since killed in the Gen. Sikorski plane crash.

AVIATION.

122. On the 6th a B.O.A.C flying boat landed with engine trouble. The Captain took nearly two hours to make up his mind if he would make a night stop or not and by the time he and his sixteen passengers had decided to stay it was after sunset and the markets were closed. The Political Agent and three other civilians arranged to feed and accommodate the passengers. The B.O.A.C flying boat was speedily repaired in the morning and left at 9 a.m for Basrah.

123. A Blenheim aircraft force landed on the landing ground on the 8th. The machine had come from Jinnah. The engines appear to be in need of extensive adjustment and they are being replaced by two sent down from Shaibah.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

124. The instruments of ratification of the three Agreements between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were exchanged in Jedda on May the 1st between a representative of His Majesty's Government on behalf of Kuwait and a representative of the Saudi Arabian Government. The occasion had little significance for the Shaikh or the people of Kuwait who found it difficult to understand, the Agreements having been signed a year ago and in practical operation for three years.

125. Messrs. Ahmad al Ghanim and Company hold a twenty year monopoly for the manufacture of ice in Kuwait. The maximum price permitted under the terms of their monopoly is Rs. 1/4 a block. Recently they decided to put the price up to Rs. 2/- a block whereupon the Electric Light Company offered to manufacture ice at Re. 1/- a block. The monopolists have come to heel and are manufacturing at Rs. 1/4 a block.

126. The Political Agent has been informed by the owners that the Kuwait vessel "Mishraf" a dhow of about 500 tons burden with an auxilary engine was detained in Bombay in January for 15 days by the Naval Authorities who appeared desirous of buying or hiring the vessel. No reference was made to the owners or the Political Agent. The owners brought the incident to the Political Agent's notice not as a complaint but because they feared such incidents might be repeated.

127. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 103 |
| Minimum temperature: | 73 |
| Humidity : | 79 |

128. SHIPPING.

On the 15th s.s. "Vosang" arrived from India and discharged 6,481 packages of general cargo.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th May, 1943.

SECRET.

No. 9 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

121. Mr. W.H. Lock, Representative of Ministry of War Transport Basrah visited Kuwait on the 2nd.

AVIATION.

122. On the 6th a B.O.A.C flying boat landed with engine trouble. The Captain took nearly two hours to make up his mind if he would make a night stop or not and by the time he and his sixteen passengers had decided to stay it was after sunset and the markets were closed. The Political Agent and three other civilians arranged to feed and accommodate the passengers. The B.O.A.C flying boat was speedily repaired in the morning and left at 9 a.m for Basrah.

123. A Blenheim aircraft force landed on the landing ground on the 8th. The machine had come from Jinnah. The engines appear to be in need of extensive adjustment and they are being replaced by two sent down from Shaibah.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

124. The instruments of ratification of the three Agreements between Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were exchanged in Jedda on May the 1st between a representative of His Majesty's Government on behalf of Kuwait and a representative of the Saudi Arabian Government. The occasion had little significance for the Shaikh or the people of Kuwait who found it difficult to understand, the Agreements having been signed a year ago and in practical operation for three years.

125. Messrs. Ahmad al Ghanim and Company hold a twenty year monopoly for the manufacture of ice in Kuwait. The maximum price permitted under the terms of their monopoly is Rs. 1/4 a block. Recently they decided to put the price up to Rs. 2/- a block whereupon the Electric Light Company offered to manufacture ice at Re. 1/- a block. The monopolists have come to heel and are manufacturing at Rs. 1/4 a block.

126. The Political Agent has been informed by the owners that the Kuwait vessel "Mishraf" a dhow of about 500 tons burden with an auxilary engine was detained in Bombay in January for 15 days by the Naval Authorities who appeared desirous of buying or hiring the vessel. No reference was made to the owners or the Political Agent. The owners brought the incident to the Political Agent's notice not as a complaint but because they feared such incidents might be repeated.

127. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 103
Minimum temperature: 73
Humidity : 79

128. SHIPPING.

On the 15th s.s. "Josang" arrived from India and discharged 6,481 packages of general cargo.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th May, 1943.

SECRET

173 P.A.
(176) M.O.

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 43 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 6-8 | RT |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 6 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL 27/8
Department.

Ext.4192/43
" 4228/43

SUBJECT: KOWEIT

Intelligence Summaries Nos. 7 and 8
(April, 1943).

Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

| Para. | |
|---|---|
| 99 | Koweit dhows arrested by Naval Authorities at sea and taken to Karachi accused of smuggling. |
| 100 and 113-115 | Food supplies in Koweit for Saudi Arabian tribesmen in Koweit territory. |
| 101 & 118 | Production of bitumen abandoned owing to lack of transport. |
| 102 | Date gardens. |
| 112 | Assembly of barges. |

For information.

M. Odgers.

E. & O. Secretary,
To see paras. 99, 100 and 113 to 115.

See Pol Cttee 14.8.43

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

E & O.
4531

SECRET. No. 8 of 1943.

Kuwait summary for the period from 16th to 30th April, 1 9 4 3.

------------

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

105. The Political Agent, accompanied by Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P, the Agency Assistant Surgeon, visited Basrah on the 30th and returned the same day.

106. Mr. A.T. Oldham H.B.M's Consul, Basrah, arrived on the 24th and left on the 25th.

107. Mr. Wiltshire, H.B.M's Vice-Consul, Basrah, arrived on the 30th and left on the 3rd May.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

107. (a) Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by Mr. Wright of the A.I.O.C, arrived from Abadan on the 26th. They left on the 1st May.

(b) Mr. Shaw, Food Controller of the A.I.O.C, arrived on the 19th and returned to Abadan the same day.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

108. Reference paragraph 98 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1943. His Highness the Shaikh is still in residence at Bayan.

109. On the 17th His Highness the Shaikh formally opened the new X Ray installation at the American Arabian Mission Hospital. This is the first X Ray apparatus to be installed in Kuwait. A reception was held by the Mission to mark the occasion and in addition to His Highness, there were present the Political Agent, leading members of the As-Subah, and representatives of the British, American, and Arab Communities.

110. The Political Agent visited Araifjan on the 18th to inspect the accumulation of rain water there. He later lunched with Shaikh Salim al Hamood as Subah.

111. On the 25th March the Iraq Government approached the Kuwait Government through the Embassy in Baghdad and the Political Agency here with the request that Mulazzim al Thani Abdul Rahim Ali, an officer of the Iraq Army absconding after being sentenced to two years imprisonment for misappropriation of funds, be arrested and handed over to them. His Highness authorised the arrest of the man and handed him over to the Political Agent who arranged for him to be conveyed to Safwan and delivered to the Iraqi authorities there on the 19th.

112. Reference para 75 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1943. A contract for the assembly of fifty five barges was signed between a representative of the American Forces and Haji Ahmad bin Salman on the 20th. The contract price has been increased by Rs.100/- a barge to meet the rise in the cost of living. It is understood that these are the last barges to be constructed here.

113. On the 18th the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company complained to the M.E.S.C. that their supplies of sand and shale had ceased owing to the difficulty their Kuwait agent was experiencing in obtaining rations for his men and boats, and suggested that they should supply 10 tons of wheat and 6 tons of rice a month. No reference had been made by the Company or their Agent here to the Political Agent. On receiving a communication from the M.E.S.C. the Political Agent enquired into the allegation and found it untrue. Supplies of sand and shale had never ceased and the

SECRET.

No. 8 of 1943.

Kuwait summary for the period from 16th to 30th April, 1 9 4 3.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

105. The Political Agent, accompanied by Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P, the Agency Assistant Surgeon, visited Basrah on the 30th and returned the same day.

106. Mr. A.T. Oldham H.B.M's Consul, Basrah, arrived on the 24th and left on the 25th.

107. Mr. Wiltshire, H.B.M's Vice-Consul, Basrah, arrived on the 30th and left on the 3rd May.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

107. (a) Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by Mr. Wright of the A.I.O.C, arrived from Abadan on the 26th. They left on the 1st May.

(b) Mr. Shaw, Food Controller of the A.I.O.C, arrived on the 19th and returned to Abadan the same day.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

108. Reference paragraph 98 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1943. His Highness the Shaikh is still in residence at Bayan.

109. On the 17th His Highness the Shaikh formally opened the new X Ray installation at the American Arabian Mission Hospital. This is the first X Ray apparatus to be installed in Kuwait. A reception was held by the Mission to mark the occasion and in addition to His Highness, there were present the Political Agent, leading members of the As-Subah, and representatives of the British, American, and Arab Communities.

110. The Political Agent visited Arqifjan on the 18th to inspect the accumulation of rain water there. He later lunched with Shaikh Salim al Hamood as Subah.

111. On the 25th March the Iraq Government approached the Kuwait Government through the Embassy in Baghdad and the Political Agency here with the request that Mulazzim al Thani Abdul Rahim Ali, an officer of the Iraq Army absconding after being sentenced to two years imprisonment for misappropriation of funds, be arrested and handed over to them. His Highness authorised the arrest of the man and handed him over to the Political Agent who arranged for him to be conveyed to Safwan and delivered to the Iraqi authorities there on the 19th.

112. Reference para 75 of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1943. A contract for the assembly of fifty five barges was signed between a representative of the American Forces and Haji Ahmad bin Salman on the 20th. The contract price has been increased by Rs.100/- a barge to meet the rise in the cost of living. It is understood that these are the last barges to be constructed here.

113. On the 18th the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company complained to the M.E.S.C. that their supplies of sand and shale had ceased owing to the difficulty their Kuwait agent was experiencing in obtaining rations for his men and boats, and suggested that they should supply 10 tons of wheat and 6 tons of rice a month. No reference had been made by the Company or their Agent here to the Political Agent. On receiving a communication from the M.E.S.C. the Political Agent enquired into the allegation and found it untrue. Supplies of sand and shale had never ceased and the

A.I.O.C. agent here stated that he had no trouble at all over rations for the sand coolies. The question of rations for the shale coolies at Hargeija, 70 miles from Kuwait town, was considered by the Advisory Council on the 20th and they advised that a ration of one lb. of cereals per head per day be allowed. This is slightly more than the town ration. They suggested that Persian and Iraq owned and manned boats engaged in carrying shale should be provisioned from Persia or Iraq but in an emergency agreed to give sufficient rations to them for the return voyage to Abadan. The suggestions were approved by the Shaikh.

114. The Kuwait Government have called on all owners and nakhudhas of pearling boats to register the names of their crews with the Rationing Committee so that an estimate can be arrived at of the amount of cereals required to ration the boats for the period of the dive i.e. 3½ months. The Kuwait Government hope to be able to make available a ration on a scale of a lb of cereals a head. Owing to the strenuous nature of the work and the difficulty of carrying and preserving forms of nourishment other than fish an adequate cereal ration is essential. It remains to be seen whether the Kuwait Government's hopes are fulfilled.

115. The absence of supplies for Saudi Arabia are causing concern. On the 17th of April the Political Agent informed the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent that the M.E.S.C. had decided to allow Kuwait 808 tons of cereals a month of which 72 tons were ear-marked for Saudi Arabian tribesmen in Kuwait and that there was no certainty that any more than that quantity would arrive. The original quota for Saudi Arabia was 360 tons of which 72 tons were retained by the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent for bedouin in Kuwait. The Political Agent intimated that indications showed that the Saudi Arabian Government preferred to make their imports through Bahrain. The Saudi Arabian Trade Agent communicated with his Government and suggested that bedouin from Saudi Arabia should not be sent here for supplies. He received a strongly worded telegram in reply from Ibn Saud to the effect that he, Ibn Saud, could not differentiate between his tribesmen in his own territory and his tribesmen in Kuwait territory without causing tribal disturbance which he would not tolerate, supplies should be obtained from Kuwait as heretofore, and that bedouin would continue to come to Kuwait. Bedouins are coming here and the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent is frantically endeavouring to make his meagre supplies go round - an impossible task. He sought help and advice from the Political Agent who made proposals to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and it is hoped that the M.E.S.C. will be able to make supplies available, even though they only take the form of barley. It is estimated that a minimum of 5,000 bags of grain a month are required for East Saudi Arabia through Kuwait.

116. During the period under review numerous bedouin Shaikhs called on the Political Agent. They were mostly farewell visits of Iraqi Shaikhs before they moved north after grazing their flocks in Kuwait during the winter.

117. On the 19th an American Military Policeman arrived with an Army lorry from Basrah and reported at the Agency and enquired the whereabouts of 200 cases of vegetable oil which he had come to fetch for a "Mr.Davies" who he described as their Basrah contractor. It seemed that the oil was "Mr.Davies' private property and was imported here by an Iraqi Jew. It was pointed out that all exports were forbidden from Kuwait and that the oil could not be moved. The driver was apologetic as he had no knowledge of the export restriction at Kuwait though doubtless "Mr.Davies" was not so ignorant.

118. KUWAIT ASPHALT.

176
(179)

- 3 -

Reference para 101 of Kuwait summary No.7 of 1943.
Owing to difficulties of transport having proved insurmountable the Kuwait Oil Company have been forced to close their bitumen production work at Burgan. It is understood that the Army authorities are negotiating with Ades of Basrah, for the removal of the mined bitumen lying at Shuwaikh and Burgan. The suggested employment of Ades for this purpose has caused some surprise as it was understood that he had been "black listed" some months ago.

119. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 96 |
| Minimum temperature | 61 |
| Humidity | 78 |
| Rainfall | 0.09" |

The rainfall this winter has been heavier than for many years past and a total to date of 9.18 inches has been recorded at the Political Agency Observatory.

120. SHIPPING. On the 21st s.s."Baroda" arrived from India and discharged 5,892 packages of general cargo.

4th May, 1943.

Sd.T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET. No. 7 of 1943.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th April 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

90. Reference paragraph 78 of Kuwait summary No. 6 of 1943. The Political Agent returned from Basra by launch on the 1st.

91. On the 6th Lieut.S.H. Powell, R.N.R., left for Abadan.

92. On the 4th Mr. Chaplain of H.M's Embassy, Baghdad, accompanied by the United States Vice-Consul at Basra, came ashore during the ship's stay.

93. Flying Officer K.H. Stevenson, who is bringing the "Handbook of the Southern Desert of Iraq" up to date, arrived here on the 12th accompanied by Captain Wood of the Trans-Jordan Frontier Force. Captain Wood left on the 13th but Flying Officer Stevenson remained until the 15th.

94. Lt-Commander Underhill and two Naval Officers arrived on the 11th and left on the 12th.

95. Reference paragraph 68 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1943. Numerous officers visited Kuwait during the period under review, some of whom were accompanied by parties of B.O.Rs, but with the exception of the 2nd R.A. Regiment no previous intimation of their visits was given to this Agency. The officers all reported at the Agency and were surprised to hear that their arrival had not been notified.

OTHER OFFICIALS.

96. Lt-Commander W.G. MacDonald the United States Naval Observer at Basra called at the Agency on the 5th.

97. On the 15th Mr. R.R. Head, Manager of Messrs. Cable and Wireless Ltd, left for the Barbadoes via Basra, after handing over charge of his office to his successor Mr. J.A. Faithful.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

98. His Highness has taken up his residence for the spring at Bayan some five miles or more from the town. He is in good health and is leading a quiet life partly on the advice of his medical attendant and partly from inclination. On the 13th he gave a dinner party to the British and American communities. This is an annual event, but was on a very much more modest scale this year than usual.

99. The news that two Kuwait dhows the "Fath al Karim" owner Abdul Aziz al Saqar, and the "Fath al Khair", Owner Yusuf al Marzook, had been arrested by the Naval Authorities on the high seas and taken to Karachi, as they were alleged to be carrying non-manifested goods, caused considerable interest in mercantile circles. The general feeling was that if people take risks for high profits by smuggling then they must take the consequences when their luck fails. His Highness expressed himself forcibly to this effect and added that the action of the Naval Authorities in taking effective steps to prevent smuggling must be commended by all law abiding citizens. It is rumoured in the town that Abdul Aziz al Saqar's "Fath al Karim" has since been released by the Karachi authorities on his paying a fine of Rs. 70,000.

100. Reference paragraph 84 of Kuwait summary No. 6 of 1943. (a) The following are the amounts of cereals received through the U.K.C.C, acting as agents for the M.E.S.C, from the 15th of March to the 15th of April both dates inclusive:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20.3.43 | 1,484 | bags I grade white flour | from Basra. |
| 27.3.43 | 2,998 | " - - do - - | |
| 4.4.43 | 1,480 | " - - do - - | |
| 7.4.43 | 1,487 | " - - do - - | from Bahrain. |
| 13.4.43 | 1,150 | " - - do - - | - do - |

(b) While in Baghdad the Political Agent in the course of conversation with the Representative of the M.E.S.C. confirmed that Kuwait's minimum monthly requirements of cereals were 808 tons, which amount included 72 tons for the feeding of Saudi Arabian tribesmen in Kuwait territory, and that the Kuwait Government would like to receive a proportion of barley when 1st grade white flour was supplied in the proportion of one bag of barley to two of flour.

(c) The short supply of rice is being very keenly felt and it is doubtful if there will be any pearling this year as the crews and divers in pearling boats subsist on rice and fish, and unless supplies arrive before the end of next month there will be no rice available for them.

See para 114 below.

101. Kuwait Asphalt. Ref. para. 452 of Kuwait summary No.24 of 1942.

Owing to transport difficulties the Army Authorities have been forced to abandon the further production of bitumen.

It was suggested that 2,000 tons a month, the amount required, or more could be handled by three 500 ton barges and one tug but it appears that valuable as these bitumen deposits are for flooring material neither the barges nor the tug are available.

102. His Highness' Date Gardens.

Reference paragraph 87 of Kuwait summary No. 6 of 1943.

His Highness' Counsel in Baghdad, Nasarat al Farisi, was instructed on the 30th of March to lodge an appeal in the Court of Cassation in the Bashiyah case and His Highness has briefed Counsel in Basra to proceed with a suit for the return of the original purchase price should this appeal be rejected. Sikandar Mansoor has been retained by His Highness as his Basra Counsel for this suit as Haji Sulaiman Fadhi who is His Highness' lawyer in Basra was prevented from appearing as he is the agent for the present occupiers of the Bashiyah estate.

While in Baghdad the Political Agent asked Nasarat al Farisi, who very ably obtained the verdict in favour of His Highness in the Faddaghiyah appeal to appear on His Highness' behalf and oppose any further appeal in this case that might be lodged in the Court of Cassation. His Highness' son and agent in Basra, Shaikh Muhammad al Ahmad As Subah, has been asked to confirm this request in writing.

103. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 86 |
| Minimum temperature: | 43 |
| Humidity | 52 |
| Rainfall | 0.15" |

104. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ SHIPPING. See appendix.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th April, 1943.

179

(182)

RETURN OF ALL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED THE PORT OF KUWAIT DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO *
15TH APRIL, 1 9 4 3

| Name of Steamer. | Nationality. | Name of Owners. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No. of Pkgs. landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M.V."ReSang" | British. | I.W.T. | 4.4.43. | 4.4.43. | 1500 pkgs. | Kuwait. |
| S.S."WoSang" | -do- | China S.N.Co. consigned to B.I. | 4.4.43. | 6.4.43. | 9599 " | -do- |
| S.S."WoSang" | -do- | --do-- | 11.4.43. | 11.4.43. | N I L. | - |
| S.S."Jalareshmi" | -do- | Scindia S.N.C.Ltd. | 11.4.43. | 12.4.43. | 210 " (Military Cargo). | Kuwait. |

Sd. E.Fernandez,

for Gray Mackenzie and Co., Ltd., Kuwait.

SECRET

180
(183)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943. | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 20.6 | RM | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | 3. vii | | Ext.2999/43 Ext.3227/43 |
| | ............Committee | | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos.5 & 6 (March 1943)

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

71 & 84 Food rationing.

72 Rainfall.

75 Production of I.W.T. barges at Shuwaikh.

82 Unfounded rumour that the export of wool and ghee to Koweit from Saudi Arabia had been prohibited.

86 Post Office.

87 Date gardens.

For information. M. Bdgers. 24/6.

E. & O. Secretary. To see paras. 71, 72, 82 and 84. EWR. Lumby 26.vi.

Seen by Political Cttee 13/7/43



(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 6 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

78. The Political Agent left for Basra en route to Baghdad on the 28th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

79. Mr. F.J. Wakelin, Educational Adviser, arrived from Bahrain via Basra on the 22nd and left for Bahrain by the mail steamer s.s. "Esang" on the 27th.

80. On the 30th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived by air from Abadan. He returned on the 31st.

81. Mr. N.A. Gass, a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. arrived by air on the 31st from Abadan. He returned the same day by air.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

82. Some concern was occasioned by a report received by the Political Agent from an emissary of C.I.C.I. Baghdad, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia, to the effect that Ibn Saud had prohibited the export of ghee, and wool etc to Kuwait territory as the authorities in Riyadh were displeased with the Kuwait Government for not permitting the export to Saudi Arabia of as much rice and other grain as the Saudi Arabian authorities consider they were entitled to receive. The Kuwait Government were advised to make discrete enquiries and the full text is given below of a telegram received by the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent here on the 29th from Ibn Saud in reply to one sent by him at the request of Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., President of the Advisory Council:

> "Inform Abdulla that our Arabs are now bringing them ghee and wool and our Government has not stopped any one and those who are bringing wool etc to Kuwait are the subjects of the Government and they are not forbidden from doing so. But the Government have forbidden the merchants from buying ghee and wool from the desert for the purpose of monopolising them. The Government have even prohibited the people of the Capital of Nejd from buying from the desert but the Arabs of the desert are to bring their goods and sell them according to what the population require. The desert is sending ghee and wool to Kuwait and it is not prohibited at all."

83. The Kuwait Government have appointed a Committee of twelve leading citizens to examine the question of the deportation of indigent foreigners. A large number of Persian subjects have recently arrived in Kuwait without travel papers in search of work, and the Food Control Committee are naturally concerned by this additional drain on their rapidly dwindling resources. It is understood that recently-arrived foreigners, who are without papers and have no visible means of subsistence, will be removed and returned whence they came.

2999.

84. Reference paragraph 71 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1943. The difficult problem of an adequate ration within the purchasing power of the majority of the inhabitants has been considered during the period under report. It is understood that the daily caloric requirements for an adult in normal work is in the neighbourhood of 3,000 calories. The present rations of rice, wheat or flour, and sugar provide only 1016 colories leaving approximately 2,000 calories to be made up from other sources. This presents no difficulty to the rich man who can afford to buy at present day prices but leaves little choice to the majority of the population who cannot afford to purchase meat, fish, "liban",

SECRET. No. 6 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

78. The Political Agent left for Basra en route to Baghdad on the 28th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

79. Mr. W.J. Wakelin, Educational Adviser, arrived from Bahrain via Basra on the 22nd and left for Bahrain by the mail steamer s.s. "Bamora" on the 27th.

80. On the 30th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived by air from Abadan. He returned on the 31st.

81. Mr. N.A. Gass, a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. arrived by air on the 31st from Abadan. He returned the same day by air.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

82. Some concern was occasioned by a report received by the Political Agent from an emissary of C.I.C.I. Baghdad, who arrived here from Saudi Arabia, to the effect that Ibn Saud had prohibited the export of ghee, and wool etc to Kuwait territory as the authorities in Riyadh were displeased with the Kuwait Government for not permitting the export to Saudi Arabia of as much rice and other grain as the Saudi Arabian authorities consider they were entitled to receive. The Kuwait Government were advised to make discrete enquiries and the full text is given below of a telegram received by the Saudi Arabian Trade agent here on the 29th from Ibn Saud in reply to one sent by him at the request of Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E., President of the Advisory Council:

"Inform Abdulla that our Arabs are now bringing them ghee and wool and our Government has not stopped any one and those who are bringing wool etc to Kuwait are the subjects of the Government and they are not forbidden from doing so. But the Government have forbidden the merchants from buying ghee and wool from the desert for the purpose of monopolising them. The Government have even prohibited the people of the Capital of Nejd from buying from the desert but the Arabs of the desert are to bring their goods and sell them according to what the population require. The desert is sending ghee and wool to Kuwait and it is not prohibited at all."

83. The Kuwait Government have appointed a Committee of twelve leading citizens to examine the question of the deportation of indigent foreigners. A large number of Persian subjects have recently arrived in Kuwait without travel papers in search of work, and the Food Control Committee are naturally concerned by this additional drain on their rapidly dwindling resources. It is understood that recently-arrived foreigners, who are without papers and have no visible means of subsistence, will be removed and returned whence they came.

84. Reference paragraph 71 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1943. The difficult problem of an adequate ration within the purchasing power of the majority of the inhabitants has been considered during the period under report. It is understood that the daily caloric requirements for an adult in normal work is in the neighbourhood of 3,000 calories. The present rations of rice, wheat or flour, and sugar provide only 1016 calories leaving approximately 2,000 calories to be made up from other sources. This presents no difficulty to the rich man who can afford to buy at present day prices but leaves little choice to the majority of the population who cannot afford to purchase meat, fish, "liban",

-2-

and vegetables daily. The poorer elements of the population and they are in the vast majority, are forced to augment their cereals rations with dates, "liban" and milk. It is thus essential that adequate supplies of dates are maintained at a reasonable price and especially will this be so as the summer approaches when supplies of milk and "liban" are not available since the large flocks of Iraqi sheep which provide them move north back to their own country as the weather gets warmer and the fresh grazing withers.



Acting on medical advice the Agency suggested to the Kuwait Government that the cereal and sugar rations should be increased - cereals by 12 lbs a month to 30 lbs a month per head and sugar by 1 lb a month to 3 lbs a month. However the Kuwait Government stated that while realising how necessary such an increase was they did not consider they would be justified in taking this step until fresh supplies now said to be on the way had actually arrived in the country, but they did in fact sanction an increase of 2 lbs per month in the cereal ration on the arrival of a consignment of M.E.S.C. flour. While the Government's caution is to be commended it must be realised that they will only be able to continue this low scale for another two months at the most without causing serious hardship since as has been recorded above the arrival of summer heralds the departure of the Iraqi shepherds with their sheep and Kuwait loses supplies of butter or ghee, milk, and "liban". A further reason for their close control of rice is that they must have supplies for the pearling fleet which normally sails in the beginning of June.

85. The late Shaikh Khazal of Mohommerah's two large houses near the Agency have changed hands. The "Diwaniya" has been purchased by Shaikh Abdulla Jabir and the "Haram" by Haji Ahmad al Ghanim. It is understood that this latter building was leased to the Army authorities by the late owners, the heirs of Shaikh Khazal.

86. Kuwait Post Office. Reference para.107 of Kuwait Summary No.6 of 1942.

The mail contract expired on the 1st of April and so far no new contract has been negotiated, but the question is now being considered by the Government of India. The Political Agent has made a ~~several~~ verbal agreement with the Kuwait Zubair Transport Company to continue carrying the mails pending the, it is trusted, satisfactory conclusion of negotiations for a new agreement.

87. His Highness' Date Gardens.
Reference paragraph 37 of Kuwait summary No. 2 of 1943.
~~10th~~ The Court of Appeal in Baghdad dismissed the appeal against the 10th Land Board's decision to register the Faddaghiya estate in the name of the As Subah and confirmed the 10th Land Board's decision alienating from the As Subah 180 of the 216 shares of the Bashiyah estate.

1931

88. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 80 |
| Minimum temperature: | 52 |
| Humidity : | 68 |
| Rainfall : | 1.68" |

2745

Reference paragraph 64 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1943.
Further rain fell during the period under review and the total rainfall for the season has now reached the high figure of 8 inches and 96 cents. The average annual rainfall for the territory is 4 inches.

89. SHIPPING.

On the 27th L.T. "Nearchus" arrived and left the same day for Bahrain with Mr. J. Croning, I.S.O., M.B.E., Assistant Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident and the clerical staff.

On the 27th the B.I.S.N Co's mail steamer s.s. "Esang" arrived from Khorramshahr and left the same day for India via Gulf Ports.

3rd April, 1943.

Sd. T.Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent
Kuwait.

SECRET. No. 5 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March, 1943.

--------



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

66. Reference paragraph 56 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1943.

The Hon'ble the Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, C.I.E., accompanied by his Under Secretary Captain P.F.C. Nicholson, left for Basra en route to Baghdad on the 1st.

67. The Political Agent accompanied by the Assistant Secretary Mr. J. Croning, I.S.O., M.B.E., left for Basra on the 4th to confer with the Hon'ble the Political Resident on his way through from Baghdad to New Delhi. They returned to Kuwait on the 6th.

68. The names of Military Officers visiting Kuwait will no longer be noted in these summaries.

69. Major Dowson, the Assistant Political Adviser Southern Area, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra on the 10th and returned on the 12th. During their stay here, they were the guests of Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

70. On the 9th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived by air from Abadan. He returned on the 11th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

71. Reference paragraph 61 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1943.

The Kuwait Government decided that in view of the serious food situation, and of the time which must elapse before fresh supplies of cereals could arrive drastic rationing must be imposed. They fixed the rice ration at 10 lbs. per head per month and the wheat or flour ration at 8 lbs. per head per month. The sugar ration, as has already been recorded, has been fixed at 2 lbs. a head per month.

These amounts are obviously too small to be continued indefinitely and the Agency has requested Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., I.M.D., and Dr. Scudder of the American Medical Mission to examine the problem immediately and to report what they consider should be the daily ration in cereals and sugar taking into account the type of work the average Kuwaiti is called upon to do and the possibility of substituting other foodstuffs for cereals bearing in mind the enormous increases in the price of meat, fish, and dates. As soon as these experienced medical officers have given their report the question will be taken up with the Shaikh. There have already been many complaints of the inadequacy of the ration especially from the poorer elements of the population who do the heaviest work and cannot afford to supplement their ration by purchasing unrationed articles.

The arrival of 5,000 maunds of dates from Iraq has eased the date situation, and the Kuwait Government are being advised by the Agency to make further purchases.

72. Kuwait has had considerably more than a normal rain-fall this winter and there seems every prospect that there is more rain to come. The average rain-fall is four inches and this winter the Agency Observatory has recorded seven inches and twenty six cents to date. Grazing is excellent all over the desert and there is every prospect that the "Arfaj" bushes will recover from

two/

SECRET. No. 5 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March, 1943.

---------

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

56. Reference paragraph 56 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1943.

The Hon'ble the Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, C.I.E., accompanied by his Under Secretary Captain P.F.C. Nicholson, left for Basra en route to Baghdad on the 1st.

57. The Political Agent accompanied by the Assistant Secretary Mr. J. Groning, I.S.O., M.B.E., left for Basra on the 4th to confer with the Hon'ble the Political Resident on his way through from Baghdad to New Delhi. They returned to Kuwait on the 5th.

58. The names of Military Officers visiting Kuwait will no longer be noted in these summaries.

69. Major Dowson, the Assistant Political Adviser Southern Area, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra on the 10th and returned on the 12th. During their stay here, they were the guests of Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

70. On the 9th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived by air from Abadan. He returned on the 11th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

71. Reference paragraph 61 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1943.

The Kuwait Government decided that in view of the serious food situation, and of the time which must elapse before fresh supplies of cereals could arrive drastic rationing must be imposed. They fixed the rice ration at 10 lbs. per head per month and the wheat or flour ration at 8 lbs. per head per month. The sugar ration, as has already been recorded, has been fixed at 2 lbs. a head per month.

These amounts are obviously too small to be continued indefinitely and the Agency has requested Major A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., I.M.D., and Dr. Scudder of the American Medical Mission to examine the problem immediately and to report what they consider should be the daily ration in cereals and sugar taking into account the type of work the average Kuwaiti is called upon to do and the possibility of substituting other foodstuffs for cereals bearing in mind the enormous increases in the price of meat, fish, and dates. As soon as these experienced medical officers have given their report the question will be taken up with the Shaikh. There have already been many complaints of the inadequacy of the ration especially from the poorer elements of the population who do the heaviest work and cannot afford to supplement their ration by purchasing unrationed articles.

The arrival of 5,000 maunds of dates from Iraq has eased the date situation, and the Kuwait Government are being advised by the Agency to make further purchases.

72. Kuwait has had considerably more than a normal rain-fall this winter and there seems every prospect that there is more rain to come. The average rain-fall is four inches and this winter the Agency Observatory has recorded seven inches and twenty six cents to date. Grazing is excellent all over the desert and there is every prospect that the "Arfaj" bushes will recover from

two/

two years of poor rain. "Arfaj" is the staple diet of camels in the summer.

73. On the 7th there was a sudden and violent storm which damaged small craft in the harbour and wrecked a Persian dhow just opposite the Old Agency building. The passengers from the dhow were rescued with great difficulty but there was only one casualty, a woman who died of exposure. Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., the Acting General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company and his wife who live in the Old Agency rendered first aid and looked after the men and women until the Medical Officer arrived.

74. Broadcasting. On the 10th the first meeting was held at the Agency of the Broadcasting and Publicity Committee. The Committee is a very representative body numbering two of the senior Kuwait Government officials and several of the leading merchants of the town among its members.

75. Reference paragraph 385 of Kuwait summary No.21 of 1942.

Things are very quiet at Shuwaikh where the Americans have more than thirty barges lying on the shore waiting for I.W.T. to take them away. Production is ~~reduced~~ much reduced owing to lack of launching space.

76. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 73 |
| Minimum temperature: | 47 |
| Humidity : | 67 |
| Rainfall : | 1.17" |

77. SHIPPING.

On the 2nd the B.I.S.N. Company's mail steamer s.s. "WOSANG" arrived from Abadan and left the next day for India via Gulf Ports. No previous intimation of this vessel calling here was received.

18th March, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET.

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 29-5 | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 31 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

185 P.A. M.O. 15/6 (188)

External Department.

Ext. 2744/43.
Ext. 2745/43.

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos. 3 and 4. February 1943.

Paragraphs of interest are :-

49, 51, 52 & 61. Food Supplies and Rationing Regulations.

50. Increased value of house property.

54. Smuggling of dates by a member of the As Subah family.

64. Rainfall.

M. Colgero. 26/5.

For information.

Secretary E.&O. Department, to see paragraphs 49 - 52, 61 and 64.

E.W.R. Lumby

28. V. 43.

Pol Cttee 9-6-43

E. & O. 2723 1943

(22229) Wt.25796/P.113 5,000 9/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET.

No. 4 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 28th February, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

56. The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Captain P.F.C. Nicholson, arrived from Bushire on the 17th in s.s. "Nearchus". Official calls were exchanged with His Highness the same day.

On the 18th the Hon'ble the Political Resident received visits from the senior members of the As Subah led by the heir-presumptive Shaikh Abdulla As Salim As Subah, C.I.E., and later from the British and American residents.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident and Captain P.F.C. Nicholson left for Basra en route to Khorramshahr on the 22nd. They returned on the 26th in the Agency launch which had been sent up the river the previous day to meet them. The journey was completed in twelve hours in perfect weather.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

57. On the 18th in the evening the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf presented the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal to Dr. C.S.G. Mylrea, O.B.E., The ceremony took place at the Agency in the presence of His Highness, British and American residents, the senior Shaikhs of the As Subah, and the leading members of the mercantile community. Dr. Mylrea has served the poor of Kuwait and Bahrain for 40 years and there was profound satisfaction among all classes of the community when he was awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal by His Majesty the King on the 1st of January this year.

Dr. Mylrea left for Basra on the 22nd.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

58. His Highness the Shaikh left on a hawking expedition on the 22nd and returned on the 26th.

59. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., left for Falaicha on the 21st and returned on the 25th.

60. On the 20th Abdul Razzaq al Emir, a leading landowner of Basra called on the Political Agent.

61. Reference paragraph 51 of Kuwait summary No. 3 of 1943.
The rationing of essential foodstuffs is being taken very seriously both by the Kuwait Government and the people of the town. The non-arrival of fresh stocks of rice and wheat has caused alarm and the town is alive with rumours which do nothing to ease the perturbation.

62. Saiyid Jamil Ar Rawi, Iraqi Minister to Saudi Arabia, arrived on the 16th en route to Riyadh. He called on the Political Agent in the morning and the call was returned in the afternoon.

63. The landing ground was unserviceable from the 23rd to the 26th owing to heavy rain.

64. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 72 |
| Minimum temperature: | 49 |
| Humidity: | 62 |
| Rainfall: | 3- 37" |

Very heavy rain fell during the night of the 22nd/23rd and again on the 23rd. In 18 hours 3 inches and 15 cents. were recorded at the Agency observatory. The rain was widespread and will do a great deal of good. By the end of the month the greater part of the Kuwait desert was covered with grazing and many small lakes had formed in the saucer-like depression.

65. SHIPPING. NIL.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major
Political Agent
Kuwait.

SECRET. No. 4 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 28th February, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

56. The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Captain P.F.C. Nicholson, arrived from Bushire on the 17th in S.S. "Nearchus". Official calls were exchanged with His Highness the same day.

On the 18th the Hon'ble the Political Resident received visits from the senior members of the As Subah led by the heir-presumptive Shaikh Abdulla As Salim As Subah, C.I.E., and later from the British and American residents.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident and Captain P.F.C. Nicholson left for Basra en route to Khorramshahr on the 22nd. They returned on the 26th in the Agency launch which had been sent up the river the previous day to meet them. The journey was completed in twelve hours in perfect weather.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

57. On the 18th in the evening the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf presented the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal to Dr. C.S.G. Mylrea, O.B.E., The ceremony took place at the Agency in the presence of His Highness, British and American residents, the senior Shaikhs of the As Subah, and the leading members of the mercantile community. Dr. Mylrea has served the poor of Kuwait and Bahrain for 40 years and there was profound satisfaction among all classes of the community when he was awarded the Kaiser-i-Hind gold medal by His Majesty the King on the 1st of January this year.

Dr. Mylrea left for Basra on the 22nd.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

58. His Highness the Shaikh left on a hawking expedition on the 22nd and returned on the 26th.

59. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., left for Falaicha on the 21st and returned on the 25th.

60. On the 20th Abdul Razzaq al Emir, a leading landowner of Basra called on the Political Agent.

61. Reference paragraph 51 of Kuwait summary No. 3 of 1943. The rationing of essential foodstuffs is being taken very seriously both by the Kuwait Government and the people of the town. The non-arrival of fresh stocks of rice and wheat has caused alarm and the town is alive with rumours which do nothing to ease the perturbation.

62. Saiyid Jamil Ar Rawi, Iraqi Minister to Saudi Arabia, arrived on the 16th en route to Riyadh. He called on the Political Agent in the morning and the call was returned in the afternoon.

63. The landing ground was unserviceable from the 23rd to the 26th owing to heavy rain.

64. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 72 |
| Minimum temperature: | 49 |
| Humidity: | 62 |
| Rainfall: | 3- 37" |

Very heavy rain fell during the night of the 22nd/23rd and again on the 23rd. In 18 hours 3 inches and 15 cents. were recorded at the Agency observatory. The rain was widespread and will do a great deal of good. By the end of the month the greater part of the Kuwait desert was covered with grazing and many small lakes had formed in the saucer-like depression.

65. SHIPPING. NIL.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major
Political Agent
Kuwait.

SECRET.

No. 3 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 16th February 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

42. The Political Agent visited Umm Qasr on the 13th.

43. On the 10th Mr. W.L.C. Knight, H.M's Consul-General Basra, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra and returned on the 13th. He called on His Highness on the 11th.

44. Fourteen British Officers visited Kuwait during the period under review.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

1931 45. Reference para. 27 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
On the 6th the Political Agent introduced Captain Icke of the United States Forces to His Highness; Captain Santelman said goodbye to His Highness at the same time.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

46. Khan Bahadur Mirza Muhammad Khan arrived from Basra on the 10th and returned on the 13th.

47. Reference para. 413 of Kuwait Summary No. 22 of 1942.
On the 3rd Prince Mirza Ismail Masaud left for Iraq having completed the Haj pilgrimage.

48. On the 8th Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., dined at the Agency.
On the 11th His Highness the Shaikh dined at the Agency.

1931 49. Reference para. 32 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
Immediately on his return from hawking on the 2nd His Highness issued "Ahlans" fixing the maximum price for meat at Rs. 4 per "wagiah" of 5 lbs. and for fish at Rs. 4 per "wagiah of 10 lbs. He also issued an "Ahlan" regarding the sale of Kuwaiti dhows to foreigners.

50. Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, the Chief Judge, has recently sold his house and garden to an enterprising cloth merchant for Rs.102,000. The cost of the property and construction of the house three or four years ago was only Rs. 30,000. The fantastic price paid is partly due to a doubt in the minds of some people of the future value of money. They are anxious to have something more substantial than a safe full of what they consider may become worthless paper to show for their labours.

1931 51. Reference paragraph 33 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
At the Shaikh's order the Advisory Council met on the 4th to consider possible improvements in the rationing system and measures to prevent smuggling. The immediate result of their deliberations was the removal of the Director of the Port Shaikh Muhammad al Jabir, from his appointment and the recovery of some five or six hundred bags of sugar from coastal villages where it was awaiting shipment to Persia.

The Council recommended that all sugar stocks be taken over on payment at the control price from the merchants by the Kuwait Government and His Highness accepted this recommendation and is arranging to transfer Rupees eight lakhs from the Eastern Bank, Bombay to the Imperial Bank of Iran here to cover the transaction.



The Control Committee met immediately after the Advisory Council and decided that the sugar ration would be fixed at 2 lbs. per head per month for the time being ~~and that the rice ration would remain at two ozs. per head per day.~~ The Control Committee has been insisting for some time th t they be given powers to

SECRET.

No. 3 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th February 1943.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

42. The Political Agent visited Umm Qasr on the 13th.

43. On the 10th Mr. W.L.C. Knight, H.M's Consul-General Basra, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra and returned on the 13th. He called on His Highness on the 11th.

44. Fourteen British Officers visited Kuwait during the period under review.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS.

45. Reference para. 27 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
On the 6th the Political Agent introduced Captain Icke of the United States Forces to His Highness; Captain Santelman said goodbye to His Highness at the same time.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

46. Khan Bahadur Mirza Muhammad Khan arrived from Basra on the 10th and returned on the 13th.

47. Reference para. 413 of Kuwait Summary No. 22 of 1942.
On the 3rd Prince Mirza Ismail Masaud left for Iraq having completed the Haj pilgrimage.

48. On the 8th Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., dined at the Agency.
On the 11th His Highness the Shaikh dined at the Agency.

49. Reference para. 32 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
Immediately on his return from hawking on the 2nd His Highness issued "Ahlans" fixing the maximum price for meat at Rs. 4 per "wagiah" of 5 lbs. and for fish at Rs. 4 per "wagiah" of 10 lbs. He also issued an "Ahlan" regarding the sale of Kuwaiti dhows to foreigners.

50. Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, the Chief Judge, has recently sold his house and garden to an enterprising cloth merchant for Rs.102,000. The cost of the property and construction of the house three or four years ago was only Rs. 30,000. The fantastic price paid is partly due to a doubt in the minds of some people of the future value of money. They are anxious to have something more substantial than a safe full of what they consider may become worthless paper to show for their labours.

51. Reference paragraph 33 of Kuwait Summary No. 2 of 1943.
At the Shaikh's order the Advisory Council met on the 4th to consider possible improvements in the rationing system and measures to prevent smuggling. The immediate result of their deliberations was the removal of the Director of the Port Shaikh Muhammad al Jabir, from his appointment and the recovery of some five or six hundred bags of sugar from coastal villages where it was awaiting shipment to Persia.

The Council recommended that all sugar stocks be taken over on payment at the control price from the merchants by the Kuwait Government and His Highness accepted this recommendation and is arranging to transfer Rupees eight lakhs from the Eastern Bank, Bombay to the Imperial Bank of Iran here to cover the transaction.

The Control Committee met immediately after the Advisory Council and decided that the sugar ration would be fixed at 2 lbs. per head per month for the time being. The Control Committee has been insisting for some time that they be given powers to

to search private houses in order to detect hoarding but so far they have met with no success and it is most improbable that they will be granted such wide powers unless the food situation deteriorates considerably.

The influx of Iraqi shepherds with their flocks continues and is a case for serious anxiety on the part of the Control Committee who are averse to letting these people have supplies in any quantity at one time for obvious reasons while the shepherds complain that they cannot carry on with a few "wagiahs" at a time as their flocks are some distance from the town and they will be for ever travelling to and fro between their tents and the Committee's office. Numbers of Iraqi donkey men have also arrived with their little black animals and have added to the mouths to be filled.

52. The Shaikh has decreed that in order to save sugar only "Rahash" and "Halwa" will be made and sold by confectioners.

53. On the 7th a shot was fired at a car conveying a party of Americans from the barge assembly plant at Shuwaikh to Basra. The shot was fired some miles north of Jebel Sanam in Iraq territory and the bullet passed through the back of the car.

54. On the 10th Shaikh Daij bin Salman, a distant relative of the Shaikh, endeavoured to pass out of the town after dark by the main gate with a quantity of dates, On his car being held up by the guard, who have orders from the Governor of the Town not to allow any foodstuffs to leave the Town without a permit, he lost his temper, talked a great deal about the fact that he was one of the Shaikhs, and drew his revolver and fired a couple of shots in the air by way of showing his independence and intimidating the guard. The guards telephoned for the Governor of the Town who on arrival spoke to His Highness on the telephone and the young man was allowed to leave the town with his dates but he was summoned to attend His Highness' reception the next day. He did so and was soundly rated and ordered to be tied to the public whipping post and soundly flogged. Everyone intervened and besought His Highness to relent and pardon the young man but it was sometime before the situation was calmer and the Shaikh Daij let off with a homily, even then His Highness spoke his mind more freely than he has been known to to a member of the Family for some years. Later Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., sent for Shaikh Daij and expressed his views in no uncertain language.

55. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 73 |
| Minimum temperature | : | 36 |
| Humidity | : | 64 |
| Rainfall | : | Nil. |

56. SHIPPING. See appendix.

17th February, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

- 2 -

to search private houses in order to detect hoarding but so far they have met with no success and it is most improbable that they will be granted such wide powers unless the food situation deteriorates considerably.

The influx of Iraqi shepherds with their flocks continues and is a case for serious anxiety on the part of the Control Committee who are averse to letting these people have supplies in any quantity at one time for obvious reasons while the shepherds complain that they cannot carry on with a few "wagiahs" at a time as their flocks are some distance from the town and they will be for ever travelling to and fro between their tents and the Committee's office. Numbers of Iraqi donkey men have also arrived with their little black animals and have added to the mouths to be filled.

52. The Shaikh has decreed that in order to save sugar only "Rahash" and "Halwa" will be made and sold by confectioners.

53. On the 7th a shot was fired at a car conveying a party of Americans from the barge assembly plant at Shuwaikh to Basra. The shot was fired some miles north of Jebel Sanam in Iraq territory and the bullet passed through the back of the car.

54. On the 10th Shaikh Daij bin Salman, a distant relative of the Shaikh, endeavoured to pass out of the town after dark by the main gate with a quantity of dates. On his car being held up by the guard, who have orders from the Governor of the Town not to allow any foodstuffs to leave the Town without a permit, he lost his temper, talked a great deal about the fact that he was one of the Shaikhs, and drew his revolver and fired a couple of shots in the air by way of showing his independence and intimidating the guard. The guards telephoned for the Governor of the Town who on arrival spoke to His Highness on the telephone and the young man was allowed to leave the town with his dates but he was summoned to attend His Highness' reception the next day. He did so and was soundly rated and ordered to be tied to the public whipping post and soundly flogged. Everyone intervened and besought His Highness to relent and pardon the young man but it was sometime before the situation was calmer and the Shaikh Daij let off with a homily, even then His Highness spoke his mind more freely than he has been known to to a member of the Family for some years. Later Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, C.I.E., sent for Shaikh Daij and expressed his views in no uncertain language.

55. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 73
Minimum temperature: 36
Humidity : 64
Rainfall : Nil.

56. SHIPPING. See appendix.

17th February, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

189
(192)

RETURN OF ALL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT PORT OF KUWAIT DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH FEB' 43.

| Name of Steamer | Nationality. | Name of owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No. of Pkgs. Landed. | | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S.Jaffersan Javis. | New York. | Unite State War Shipping Administration. Agents Isthunian S.S. Co. | 31-1-43. | 3-2-43. | Military Cargo 1032 Pkgs. | | Kuwait. |
| S.S."Baroda" | British. | B.I.S.N. Co., Ltd., | 11-2-43. | 13-2-43. | 3164 Pkgs. | Commercial Cargo. | -do- |
| S.S."Wosang" | -do- | China N.Co., Consigned to B.I. | 12-2-43. | 14-2-43. | 5582 " | | -do- |

Sd. E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray Meckenzie & Co., Ltd., Kuwait.

(193)

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dist<br>& pa<br>ak | Under Secretary... | 21.4 | RN | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 22 | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | Ext.1930 and 1931/43. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | SECRET |

SEEN POL. CTTEE 6 MAY 1943

SUBJECT: KOWEIT

~~General~~ Intelligence Summaries Nos.1 and 2 (January 1943)

Paragraphs of interest in these summaries are:-

12. Inability of the Koweit-Zubair Transport Company to renew their contract for carrying mails between Koweit and Iraq without official assistance in importing spare parts, tyres and new cars.

13 & 36. Prohibition by the Government of Sind on export of wheat and wheat flour.

14 & 35. Supplies for Saudi Arabia.

15 & 37. Date gardens. (The Appelate Court has since confirmed the decision of the Committee in favour of the Sheikh in the Faddagiyah case and against him in the Bashiya case).

Land Settlement

16 & 38/

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

16 & 38. Export of dates from the Sheikh's Fao estates.

17. Rise in prices.

21. Arrival of Iraqi Military Mission returning from the Yemen.

34. Local reactions to Rommel's retreat in Tunisia.

M. Odgers.
15/4.

E.& O. Secretary to see paragraphs 13, 14, 17, 35 and 36.

EWR Lumby.
16.IV.43.

Seen, thanks.
20/4

SECRET.

No. 2 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January, 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

25. The Political Agent left for Abadan by air on the 16th and returned by road via Basra on the 18th.

VISITORS.

26. The following were the official visitors to Kuwait during the period under review:-

2nd Lieut. Huskinson 31st Indian Armoured Division 19th to 21st.
Junior Commander Williams. 20th to 21st.
Captain Nicholls of the Special Investigation Branch 25th and left the same day.
2nd Lieut. Huskinson 25th to 29th.
Colonel Shingler and Colonel Luscombe of the United States Army 28th.
Ensign C.L. Brown United States Naval Reserve 31st.
P/O Waters of 215 Group, Royal Air Force 31st.
Lieut-Col: Clarke and Lt: Tyrrell - 27th to 29th.

A number of officers visited Kuwait privately during the period under review.

27. Captain Ickie of the United States Army arrived on the 29th to relieve Captain W.W. Santelman of the United States Army who has been in charge of the barge construction work at Shuwaikh since the inception of the project. The excellent relations which have existed between the American supervisors and the local craftsmen have in large measure been due to Captain Santelman's tactful handling.

What sort of a lady is this? Is she American? ASA

28. Junior Commander Williams whose visit has been recorded elsewhere arrived escorted by two lorries containing three Indian Officers and a number of Indian other ranks. The lady was said to be making a topographical survey of the Safwan - Kuwait road. No previous permission was obtained from His Highness nor was any intimation given to the Agency of her advent other than a telegraphic instruction to arrange accommodation.

29. The 37th Workshop Company carried out a training drive on the 16th and 17th.

30. A Military combined exercise was carried out successfully on the 20th and on the 28th the leading Shaikhs of the As Subah were permitted to watch anti-tank guns firing. They enjoyed the demonstration very much and are now hoping that it will be possible for a tank to visit Kuwait.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

31. Reference para 8 of Kuwait Summary No. 1 of 1943.

Mr. L.D. Scott returned to Abadan by air on the 16th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

32. His Highness the Shaikh left on a hawking expedition on the 23rd and had not returned by the end of the month. A number of matters are awaiting his consideration including a suggestion by the Agency that he should prohibit the sale of Kuwaiti dhows to persons not trading from Kuwait thus retaining these vessels on the Kuwait - India run and frustrating the endeavours of non-Kuwaiti merchants to purchase them for the Indian coastal and other trades, a suggestion by the Agency that the price of meat, fish, and dates should be controlled, and a communication from the Agency regarding the improving of the present rationing system.



33./

SECRET.

No. 2 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period
from 16th to 31st January, 1943.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

25. The Political Agent left for Abadan by air on the 16th and returned by road via Basra on the 18th.

VISITORS.

26. The following were the official visitors to Kuwait during the period under review:-

2nd Lieut. Huskinson 31st Indian Armoured Division 19th to 21st.
Junior Commander Williams. 20th to 21st.
Captain Nicholls of the Special Investigation Branch 25th and left the same day.
2nd Lieut. Huskinson 25th to 29th.
Colonel Shingler and Colonel Luscombe of the United States Army 28th.
Ensign C.L. Brown United States Naval Reserve 31st.
F/O Waters of 215 Group, Royal Air Force 31st.

A number of officers visited Kuwait privately during the period under review.

27. Captain Icke of the United States Army arrived on the 29th to relieve Captain W.W. Santelman of the United States Army who has been in charge of the barge construction work at Shuwaikh since the inception of the project. The excellent relations which have existed between the American supervisors and the local crafts-men have in large measure been due to Captain Santelman's tactful handling.

28. Junior Commander Williams whose visit has been recorded elsewhere arrived escorted by two lorries containing three Indian Officers and a number of Indian other ranks. The lady was said to be making a topographical survey of the Safwan - Kuwait road. No previous permission was obtained from His Highness nor was any intimation given to the Agency of her advent other than a tele-graphic instruction to arrange accommodation.

29. The 37th Workshop Company carried out a training drive on the 16th and 17th.

30. A Military combined exercise was carried out successfully on the 20th and on the 29th the leading Shaikhs of the As Sabah were permitted to watch anti-tank guns firing. They enjoyed the demonstration very much and are now hoping that it will be possible for a tank to visit Kuwait.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

31. Reference para 8 of Kuwait Summary No. 1 of 1943.

Mr. L.D. Scott returned to Abadan by air on the 16th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

32. His Highness the Shaikh left on a hawking expedition on the 23rd and had not returned by the end of the month. A number of matters are awaiting his consideration including a suggestion by the Agency that he should prohibit the sale of Kuwaiti dhows to persons not trading from Kuwait thus retaining these vessels on the Kuwait - India run and frustrating the endeavours of non-Kuwaiti merchants to purchase them for the Indian coastal and other trades, a suggestion by the Agency that the price of meat, fish and dates should be controlled, and a communication from the Agency regarding the improving of the present rationing system.



33./

192
(195)

-2-

7076/42 33. Reference para. 407 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1942.
As a result of further pressure from the Agency serious attention is being given to the suppression of smuggling and during the period under review 15 constables of the Harbour Police were dismissed for dereliction of duty.

34. There have been curious local political reactions to the retreat of Marshal Rommell into Tunisia. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim As Subah, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 24th and invited the Political Agent and the leading Europeans to dinner on the 26th at his new house at Shaib. After dinner he delivered himself of a short speech in praise of and gratitude to Great Britain very much surprising one of the British guests who has known this Shaikh for more than thirty years and never heard him so outspokenly pro-British before. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim dined at the Agency on the 29th.

On the 31st Shaikh Fahad As Salim As Subah, the Director of Finance, a negroid half brother of Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, sought an interview with the Political Agent for the first time for more than a year during the course of which he spoke feelingly of the greatness of Britain and the unalloyed goodness of all her officials and was treated to a lecture in return on a better management of his rationing system. The interview lasted for at least an hour and a half and would not have terminated when it did but fortunately other visitors were announced when Shaikh Fahad was searching his mind for further examples of British high-mindedness. His Highness' disloyal opposition is undergoing a metamorphosis.

1930 below. 35. Ref. paragraph 14 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943.
The Saudi Trade Agent has deposited a total of Rs. 13 lakhs in the Kuwait branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran and has received instructions to make purchases at Kuwait Government controlled rates from the supply Control Committee for quota goods and from local merchants for non-quota goods. It is apparently intended to abandon the scheme whereby Messrs. Gray Mackenzie did the purchasing of all quota goods and handed them over to the Saudi Trade Agent.

" below. 36. Ref. paragraph 13 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943.
The serious shortage of foodstuffs in India was explained in confidence to His Highness the Shaikh who had suspected that the action of the Sind Government was due to more serious causes than just a departmental misunderstanding and who received the news of the true state of affairs calmly and agreed that it would be as well to keep the news from the general public for as long as possible, in the hope that before it became necessary to confirm their fears there would be some definite news of the arrival of supplies from some alternative source.
The Supply Control Committee have tightened their control and rice and sugar are being doled out by the Wagiya (5 lbs) instead of by the bag as was previously the custom.

" below 37. Reference para. 15 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943.
The Faddaghiya appeal has been postponed again at the request of the Appellants' counsel. This is the ~~fifth connective~~ sixth consecutive adjournment they have applied for and obtained.

" below. 38. Ref. paragraph 16 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943.
Through the good offices of H.M's Consulate-General in Basra the permit has now been received by Shaikh Mohd. al Ahmad.

" 39. Ref. para. 20 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943.
These proposals of the Military authorities will probably not be proceeded with by them.

40. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 74. |
| Minimum temperature: | 43 |
| Humidity: | 77 " |
| Rainfall: | 0.80. |

41. Shipping. See Appendix:

2nd February, 1943.

(Sd) T. Hickinbotham.
Political Agent
Kuwait.

-2-

33. Reference para. 407 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1942. As a result of further pressure from the Agency serious attention is being given to the suppression of smuggling and during the period under review 15 constables of the Harbour Police were dismissed for dereliction of duty.

34. There have been curious local political reactions to the retreat of Marshal Rommell into Tunisia. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim As Subah, C.I.E., called on the Political Agent on the 24th and invited the Political Agent and the leading Europeans to dinner on the 26th at his new house at Shaib. After dinner he delivered himself of a short speech in praise of and gratitude to Great Britain very much surprising one of the British guests who has known this Shaikh for more than thirty years and never heard him so outspokenly pro-British before. Shaikh Abdulla As Salim dined at the Agency on the 29th.

On the 31st Shaikh Fahad As Salim As Subah, the Director of Finance, a negroid half brother of Shaikh Abdulla As Salim, sought an interview with the Political Agent for the first time for more than a year during the course of which he spoke feelingly of the greatness of Britain and the unalloyed goodness of all her officials and was treated to a lecture in return on a better management of his rationing system. The interview lasted for at least an hour and a half and would not have terminated when it did but fortunately other visitors were announced when Shaikh Fahad was searching his mind for further examples of British high-mindedness. His Highness' disloyal opposition is undergoing a metamorphosis.

35. Ref. paragraph 14 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. The Saudi Trade Agent has deposited a total of Rs. 13 lakhs in the Kuwait branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran and has received instructions to make purchases at Kuwait Government controlled rates from the supply control Committee for quota goods and from local merchants for non-quota goods. It is apparently intended to abandon the scheme whereby Messrs. Gray Mackenzie did the purchasing of all quota goods and handed them over to the Saudi Trade Agent.

36. Ref. paragraph 13 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. The serious shortage of foodstuffs in India was explained in confidence to His Highness the Shaikh who had suspected that the action of the Sind Government was due to more serious causes than just a departmental misunderstanding and who received the news of the true state of affairs calmly and agreed that it would be as well to keep the news from the general public for as long as possible, in the hope that before it became necessary to confirm their fears there would be some definite news of the arrival of supplies from some alternative source.
The Supply Control Committee have tightened their control and rice and sugar are being doled out by the Wagiya (5 lbs) instead of by the bag as was previously the custom.

37. Reference para. 15 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. The Faddaghiya appeal has been postponed again at the request of the Appellants' counsel. This is the ~~fifth consecutive~~ sixth consecutive adjournment they have applied for and obtained.

38. Ref. paragraph 16 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. Through the good offices of H.M.'s Consulate-General in Basra the permit has now been received by Shaikh Mohd. al Ahmad.

39. Ref. para. 20 of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1943. These proposals of the Military authorities will probably not be proceeded with by them.

40. METEOROLOGICAL.
Maximum temperature: 74.
Minimum temperature: 43
Humidity: 77 %
Rainfall: 0.80

41. Shipping. See Appendix.

193
(196)

Return of all shipping entered and cleared at the Port of Kuwait during the period from 16th to 31st January, 1 9 4 3.

| Name of steamer. | Nationality. | Name of Owners. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No. of Pkgs landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S. "[illegible]-Sang" | British. | China N. Co. Consigned to E.I. | 27-1-43- | 28-1-43. | Nil | Kuwait. |
| S.S. "[illegible]" | -do- | --do-- | 28-1-43. | 29-1-43. | 184 Pkgs. Military cargo. | -do- |

Sd. E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., Kt.

SECRET. No. 1 of 1943.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 16th January 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

1. The Political Agent accompanied by the Agency Medical Officer left for Safwan on the 4th to inspect the telegraph line, and returned the same day.

2. Captain Modsingh of the 54 Motor Transport Company (Jodhpur arrived on the 3rd and returned on the 9th.

3. Lieut. Tyrrel, R.A., of the 31st Indian Armoured Division arrived on the 6th and returned the ~~same~~ next day.

4. Major C.A.G. Savidge, MBE., Public Relations Officer, Basra, accompanied by Captain J. Henderson arrived from Basra on the 9th and left on the 11th.

5. Lieut-Colonel Marriott came ashore from s.s. Tsinan on the 10th.

6. Col. Jackson Commanding 40th Indian Infantry Brigade, and two other officers arrived on the 13th and returned on the ~~10th~~ 14th.

7. Lieut-Col. Clarke, Lieut. Tyrrel and 2nd Lieut.Huskinson of the 31st Indian Armoured Division arrived on the 15th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

8. On the 12th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by Messrs. Chase and Rooke arrived from Abadan by A.I.O.C plane.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

9. New Years Day. The usual reception was held by the Political Agent in the morning. His Highness the Shaikh, members of the Subah family, leading Arab merchants, and the British and Indian community called on the Political Agent.

All the shops were closed and the town observed a general holiday.

At the Agency reception the Political Agent handed to Shaikh Abdulla al Khalifah the insignia of a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire; this honour having been conferred on his brother the late Shaikh Ali al Khalifah, C.I.E., who died of consumption before he could be invested.

10. On the 7th His Highness dismissed the Municipal Executive Officer, Sultan bin Qalib, for misappropriation of public funds.

11. The s.s. "Tsinan" carrying mails arrived on the 10th being then two days over due. The Captain notified his sailing time as 6-30 p.m local time but in fact sailed at 5-15 p.m local time without making any reference to the Naval Representative or to the Agents for the British India Steam Navigation Company with the result that an employee of the Kuwait Oil Company and a Police constable of the State Police remained on board. The mails were left behind together with important official "safe hand" packages The conduct of the Captain has been reported to the Naval authorities.

12. On the 7th Saiyid Hamid al Naqib of Basra the President of the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company informed the Political Agent that the Company would be unable to renew the mail contract for the carriage of mails between Kuwait and Iraq unless official assistance was given to the Company to import spare parts, tyres and new cars. The present contract expires on the 1st of April

this/

SECRET. No. 1 of 1943.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 16th January 1943.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

1. The Political Agent accompanied by the Agency Medical Officer left for Jahrah on the 4th to inspect the telegraph line, and returned the same day.

2. Captain [illegible] of the 54 Motor Transport Company (Indian) arrived on the 2nd and returned on the 5th.

3. Lieut. Tyrrel, R.A., of the 31st Indian Armoured Division arrived on the 5th and returned the same day.

4. Major [illegible], [illegible] Basra, accompanied by Captain J. Henderson arrived from Basra on the 9th and left on the 11th.

5. Lieut-Colonel Marriott came ashore from s.s. Talma on the 10th.

6. Col. Jackson Commanding 40th Indian Infantry Brigade, and two other officers arrived on the 13th and returned on the 14th.

7. Lieut-Col. Clarke, Lieut. Tyrrel and 2nd Lieut. Hutchinson of the 31st Indian Armoured Division arrived on the 15th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

8. On the 13th Mr. L.D. Scott, General Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by Messrs. Chase and Moore arrived from Abadan by A.I.O.C plane.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

9. New Years Day. The usual reception was held by the Political Agent in the morning. His Highness the Shaikh, members of the Subah family, leading Arab merchants, and the British and Indian community called on the Political Agent.

All the shops were closed and the town observed a general holiday.

At the Agency reception the Political Agent handed to Shaikh Abdulla al Khalifah the insignia of a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire; this honour having been conferred on his brother the late Shaikh Ali al Khalifah, C.I.E., who died of consumption before he could be invested.

10. On the 7th His Highness dismissed the Municipal Executive Officer, Sultan bin [illegible], for misappropriation of public funds.

11. The s.s. "Talma" carrying mails arrived on the 10th being then two days over due. The Captain notified his sailing time as 6-30 p.m. local time but in fact sailed at 5-15 p.m. local time without making any reference to the Naval Representative or to the Agents for the British India Steam Navigation Company with the result that an employee of the Kuwait Oil Company and a Police constable of the State Police remained on board. The mails were left behind together with important official "safe hand" packages. The conduct of the Captain has been reported to the Naval authorities.

12. On the 7th Saiyid Hamid al Naqib of Basra the President of the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company informed the Political Agent that the Company would be unable to renew the mail contract for the carriage of mails between Kuwait and Iraq unless official assistance was given to the Company to import spare parts, tyres and new cars. The present contract expires on the 1st of April.

this year. The matter has been referred to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

see para 36 above.

13. Considerable disquiet was caused on the 22nd of December by telegrams from Kuwait merchants in Karachi to the effect that the Government of Sind had forbidden the export of wheat and wheat flour. On the 4th further telegrams arrived giving the news that the export of rice had also been forbidden by the Sind Government. It was assumed locally that the action of the Sind Government was due to a misunderstanding and that the Government of India would lose no time in setting matters right. As time passed and no reassuring news was forthcoming from the Karachi agents the disquiet increased and the Political Agent was asked confidentially whether it would be advisable for exports to Saudi Arabia to be discontinued. The Political Agent advised against such action giving it as his opinion that the stoppage was undoubtedly only temporary and due to some misunderstanding.

The supply position is not made easier by the large numbers of Iraqi shepherds who attracted partly by good grazing due to early rains in Kuwait territory and partly by the comparatively reasonable prices of staple commodities have come south and are now grazing their flocks in the neighbourhood of and drawing their supplies from the town.

see para 35 above.

14. Reference paragraph 453 of Kuwait summary No. 24 of 1942. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie's agent is still without funds and the Saudi Trade Agent without instructions.

7076/42

see para 37 above

15. Reference paragraph 415 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1942. The appeal has again been postponed until January 18th to enable the opposition counsel time to obtain copies of certain documents.

16. On the 14th December the Mutassarif of Basra informed H.B.M Consul-General Basra that permission had been received for His Highness to export one third of the date crop from his Fao estates to Kuwait where they are urgently needed.

On the 15th Shaikh Mohomad al Ahmad As Subah, His Highness' agent for the Iraq estates, informed His Highness that his repeated requests to the Mutassarif for the necessary export permits had met with no success and that he had now been told that the question had been referred by the President of the Date Board to the Ministry of Finance.

17. The following is an interesting table of prices showing the tremendous increase in the cost of living since the war began:-

| | 1939. | 1943. |
|---|---|---|
| Rice (Bawli) | ... Rs. 7 a bag. | Rs. 29/4 a bag. |
| Wheat | Rs. 5 a bag | Rs. 29/4 a bag. |
| Dates. | ~~Annas~~ Re 1/8 12 a basket. | Rs. 16 a basket. |
| Fodder (dry) | Rs. 3 a camel load. | Rs. 24 a camel load |
| Sugar. | Rs. 8 a bag. | Rs. 75 a bag. |
| Tea. | Rs. 3 for 5 lbs. | Rs.14/8 for 5 lbs. |
| Charcoal | Rs. 3/8 a bag. | Rs. 25 a bag. |
| Milk | Annas 3 a bottle. | Annas 10 a bottle (well watered) |
| Firewood (palm wood) | Rs. 4 a thousand pieces. | Rs. 20 a thousand pieces. |
| Mutton | Annas 14 for 5 lbs. | Rs. 5/8 for 5 lbs. |
| Beef. | Annas 10 for 5 lbs. | Rs. 4 for 5 lbs. |
| Fish. | 1 rupee for 10 lbs. | Rs. 6 for 10 lbs. |

To meet the increased cost of living Kuwait Government servants, Municipal employees, the employees of Messrs. Cable and Wireless Ltd, the Imperial Bank of Iran and the Kuwait Oil Company have/

have all been granted some form of monetary compensation.

6885/42 18. Reference paragraph 393 of Kuwait summary No. 21 of 1942. Work has recommenced on the telegraph line as the lineman disclosed the fact that he had sufficient insulators and wire to complete a further fifteen miles.

19. The Ministry of War Transport enquired on the 4th whether there would be any objection to using Kuwait to relieve the congestion at the mouth of the Shatt al Arab and asked how many ships could be accommodated. They were informed that His Highness had no objection and that at least twenty vessels could anchor in Kuwait Bay without making use of the Khadamah anchorage.

20. It is understood that the Military authorities in the Basra area are considering renting certain houses in Kuwait that were at one time occupaied by the European employees of the Kuwait Oil Company as a hostel for British Officers and Nursing Sisters on short leave. They have been informed that the idea is welcomed locally provided the establishments are self contained as regards rations.

see para 39 above

The suggestion that a Rest Camp for British troops might be located here was not welcomed as there are no recreational facilities whatsoever for troops.

21. The Iraqi Military Mission to the Yemen arrived from Riyadh on the 7th on their return to Iraq. The arrival was a complete surprise to the Agency and the Kuwait Government. It is understood that the Mission had been nearly four years in the Yemen and that they started a Military school with some measure of success but they were on the whole dissatisfied with the progress they had made in trying to effect improvements in the Yemen's army. They stated that a Syrian by name Thasee Pasha al Faqir is in charge of the armed forces.

They stated that there were a number of Italian doctors in the Yemen who exercised much influence with the general public and were working hard and spending considerable sums of money to further the interests of Italy.

They further stated that the English doctor in Sana had very little influence with the townspeople.

22. On the 9th Major C.A.G. Savidge, MBE, brought the Public Relations travelling ~~cinema~~ cinema to Kuwait and showed some excellent films. Two shows were given, one on the 9th to the members of His Highness' family and the leading citizens in the house of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohommerah at which light refreshments were served, and the other on the 10th in the public square on a particularly cold night at which several thousand people were present.

see para 4.

23. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 66.9 |
| Minimum temperature: | 44 |
| Humidity. | 94 |
| Rainfall | .020" |

24. SHIPPING. See Appendix.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th January, 1943.

RETURN OF ALL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED AT PORT OF KUWAIT DURING THE PERIOD 1ST TO 15TH JANUARY, 1943.

| Name of Steamer. | Nationality. | Name of Owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No.of Pkgs. landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S.Dahpu. V.18. | British. | Norwegian. | 1-1-1943. | 1-1-1943. | N I L. | Kuwait. |
| S.S.Ieff-Davisri.V.i. | American. | Isthmian Steam-ship Company. | 8-1-1943. | 9-1-1943. | 684 Pkgs. K.D. Barges. | -do- |
| S.S.North Leigh. V.1. | British. | E.& Strick Co. | 10-1-1943. | 11-1-1943. | 237 ------do------ | -do- |
| S.S.Tsinan. V.1. | British. | The China Navig-ation Co., Ltd. | 10-1-1943. | 10-1-1943. | 4 Pkgs. | -do- |

Sd. E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray Mackenzie & Co., Ltd.,
Kuwait.

SECRET.

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 43 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | P.A. Committee | 6.4 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

(201) P.A. 198 M.O.

External 3/4 Department.

Ext. 1578/43.

SEEN POL. CTTEE. 7 APR 1943

SUBJECT:

Koweit

Intelligence Summary No. 24 of 1942.
(December 16th - 31st)

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are - 450. Water Supply, 453. Saudi-Arabian Supply Scheme, 455. Sugar Smuggling, 457. Application of the increase in import duty to British subjects.

M. Odgers. 2/4.

Information Department,

to see paragraph 454. Presumably the Committee will listen to the Arabic broadcasts from Bahrein and elsewhere, report on their reception and popularity, and make recommendations.

E.W.R. Lumby. 3.iv.43.

7/4

6/4.

7/4/43

7.iv.

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

199

(202)

**REFERRED TO**

Information Dept.
(Miss Booker)

(Date) 3. iv. 43.

Seen, [illegible]. E.R.B. 5/4/43

I consulted Miss Booker on the advisability of sending a copy of para 454 to the B.B.C. She advised against it, until we have more definite information

M.O. 7/4.



7172 W 8900/111 10,000 5.38

SECRET.

No. 24 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

437. Reference paragraph 425 of Kuwait Summary No. 23 of 1942. The Political Agent returned from Bahrain via Basra on 18th The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 24th. The Political Agent left for Fao via Basra on the 26th and returned on the 29th.

438. Lieut. Miall, RNR, left for Khorramshahr on the 29th.

439. Captain Modsingh of the 54 Motor Transport (Jodhpur) arrived on the 24th and left for Basra on the 27th.

440. Two Indian Officers accompanied by two British Nursing Sisters visited Kuwait on the 20th.

441. Squadron-Leader Mills, R.A.F. Accounts Officer, 215 Group Basra arrived on the 22nd, accompanied by two other R.A.F Officers. They returned to Basra on the same evening.

442. Majors Trench and Barrington of the Poona Horse visited Kuwait from the 24th to the 26th.

443. On the 24th Major Adie, OBE, and another Officer carried out a training drive to Kuwait with No. 37 M. Workshop Company.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

444. Dr. C.S.G. Mylrea, OBE, arrived from Muscat in the s.s. "Hunan" on the 20th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

445. On the 16th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, went to Geysumah to meet Shaikh Mohomad bin Isa Al Khalifah. He returned to Kuwait on the 20th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

446. Sulaiman Fadhi, His Highness Legal Adviser, arrived on a brief visit to Kuwait on the 18th and returned to Basra on the 23rd.

447. Shaikh Mohomad Al Ahmad As Subah arrived from Basra on the 18th and returned on the 23rd.

448. Shaikh Abdulla Al Khazal, son of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohommerah, arrived here from Basra on the 18th and called on the Political Agent on the 20th. Shaikh Abdulla is suspected of being more than interested in the smuggling of sugar and a careful watch is being kept on his movements by the Public Security Department.

449. On the 18th the Id al Adha was celebrated and the Political Agent paid the usual calls on His Highness and on the notables of the Town. He later attended the tribal dancing in the public square.

4960/42

450. Kuwait Water Supply. Ref. para.271 of Kuwait Summary No.15. There has been more trouble with the directors of the Water Company. They found themselves short of funds and increased the price of water to 9 pies per four gallon tin. It was just such a projected increase that caused the resignation of some of the old directors in August.

A new Board of Control has now been formed and the old directors under pressure from the President of the Advisory Council have agreed to return. The capital of the Company has been increased by Rs. 2,00,000 of which amount the general public have taken up Rs. 1,30,000 and the Kuwait Government the remaining Rs. 70,000. The

Company/

SECRET.

No. 24 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

437. Reference paragraph 425 of Kuwait Summary No. 23 of 1942. The Political Agent returned from Bahrain via Basra on 18th
The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 24th.
The Political Agent left for Fao via Basra on the 26th and returned on the 29th.

438. Lieut. Miall, RNR, left for Khorramshahr on the 29th.

439. Captain Modsingh of the 54 Motor Transport (Jodhpur) arrived on the 24th and left for Basra on the 27th.

440. Two Indian Officers accompanied by two British Nursing Sisters visited Kuwait on the 20th.

441. Squadron-Leader Mills, R.A.F. Accounts Officer, 215 Group Basra arrived on the 22nd, accompanied by two other R.A.F Officers. They returned to Basra on the same evening.

442. Majors Trench and Barrington of the Poona Horse visited Kuwait from the 24th to the 26th.

443. On the 24th Major Adie, OBE, and another Officer carried out a training drive to Kuwait with No. 37 M. Workshop Company.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

444. Dr. C.S.G. Mylrea, OBE, arrived from Muscat in the s.s. "Kuman" on the 20th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

445. On the 16th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, went to Geysumah to meet Shaikh Mohomad bin Isa Al Khalifah. He returned to Kuwait on the 20th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

446. Sulaiman Fahdi, His Highness Legal Adviser, arrived on a brief visit to Kuwait on the 18th and returned to Basra on the 23rd.

447. Shaikh Mohomad Al Ahmad As Subah arrived from Basra on the 18th and returned on the 23rd.

448. Shaikh Abdulla Al Khazal, son of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohommerah, arrived here from Basra on the 18th and called on the Political Agent on the 20th. Shaikh Abdulla is suspected of being more than interested in the smuggling of sugar and a careful watch is being kept on his movements by the Public Security Department.

449. On the 18th the Id al Adha was celebrated and the Political Agent paid the usual calls on His Highness and on the notables of the Town. He later attended the tribal dancing in the public square.

450. Kuwait Water Supply. Ref. para.271 of Kuwait Summary No.15. There has been more trouble with the directors of the Water Company. They found themselves short of funds and increased the price of water to 9 pies per four gallon tin. It was just such a projected increase that caused the resignation of some of the old directors in August.
A new Board of Control has now been formed and the old directors under pressure from the President of the Advisory Council have agreed to return. The capital of the Company has been increased by Rs. 2,00,000 of which amount the general public have taken up Rs. 1,30,000 and the Kuwait Government the remaining Rs. 70,000. The

Company/

Company have decided to build a further ten water dhows at a probable cost of Rs. 2,00,000 and the keels of the several of the vessels have already been laid down.

It is to be hoped that this addition to the fleet of water dhows will prevent the annual periods of water shortage.

451. Information was received here on the 16th that Brigadier Gifford Hull, Commanding Royal Engineers (Works) Basra, had instructed his deputy in Kuwait, Lieut.Duncan, to deliver to His Highness a sufficient quantity of asphalt from Burgan to surface the two avenues leading up to the Dasman, in appreciation of the spirit of goodwill and friendly cooperation existing between His Highness and His Majesty's Forces.

6885/42

452. Reference paragraph 388 of Kuwait summary No. 21 of 1942. On the 22nd it was reported that a draft contract for the transportation of the asphalt from Burgan to Shuwaikh at Rs. 8/- per ton had been prepared by Yusuf Jassim al Yacub, the late Director of Customs, for the consideration of the Army Authorities.

7016/42

453. Reference paragraph 408 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1942. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie's Agent has now received instructions with regard to the Saudi Supply Scheme, but not the funds to bring the scheme into effect. The Saudi Arabian Trade Agent has not received instructions from his Government but has received funds.

454. A Broadcasting Committee has been formed under the presidency of the Political Agent. The following have accepted invitations to be members:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Shaikh Abdulla bin Jabir | - | Chief Judge and Director of Education. |
| Shaikh Abdulla bin Mubarak | - | Director of Public Security and Governor of the Town. |
| Abdur Rahman bin Bahar | - | A leading merchant. |
| Abdulla bin Mulla Saleh | - | His Highness' Secretary. |
| Abdul Karim Abul | - | A merchant of standing & His Highness' Financial Agent. |
| Mohomad Jaffer. | - | An Egyptian who served with the Turkish Army in Iraq during the last war. He is responsible for keeping His Highness informed of news broadcasts. |
| Yusuf Abdul Latif Al Hamad | - | A prominent merchant. |

455. On the 30th four persons were publicly flogged and later imprisoned for being involved in sugar smuggling and a hundred bags of sugar confiscated.

456. A dhow which had been purchased by the Royal Navy and converted for mine watching purposes sank while being towed to Fao on the 22nd.

457. His Majesty's Government have agreed to the increase in import duty from 5½% to 6½% being applied to British subjects. A notice applying the Kuwait Government order to British subjects was published by the Political Agent on the 31st of December, 1942.

458. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | : | 68 |
| Minimum temperature | : | 43.1 |
| Humidity | : | 97" |
| Rainfall | : | 0.58" |

459. SHIPPING. See Appendix to the Summary.

2nd January, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-2-

Company have decided to build a further ten water dhows at a probable cost of Rs. 2,00,000 and the keels of the several of the vessels have already been laid down.

It is to be hoped that this addition to the fleet of water dhows will prevent the annual periods of water shortage.

451. Information was received here on the 16th that Brigadier Clifford Hull, Commanding Royal Engineers (Works) Basra, had instructed his deputy in Kuwait, Lieut. Duncan, to deliver to His Highness a sufficient quantity of asphalt from Burgan to surface the two avenues leading up to the Dasman, in appreciation of the spirit of goodwill and friendly cooperation existing between His Highness and His Majesty's Forces.

452. Reference paragraph 388 of Kuwait summary No. 21 of 1942. On the 22nd it was reported that a draft contract for the transportation of the asphalt from Burgan to Shuwaikh at Rs. 8/- per ton had been prepared by Yusuf Jassim al Yaqub, the late Director of Customs, for the consideration of the Army Authorities.

453. Reference paragraph 408 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1942. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie's Agent has now received instructions with regard to the Saudi Supply Scheme, but not the funds to bring the scheme into effect. The Saudi Arabian Trade Agent has not received instructions from his Government but has received funds.

454. A Broadcasting Committee has been formed under the presidency of the Political Agent. The following have accepted invitations to be members:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Shaikh Abdulla bin Jabir | - Chief Judge and Director of Education. |
| Shaikh Abdulla bin Mubarak | - Director of Public Security and Governor of the Town. |
| Abdur Rahman bin Bahar | - A leading merchant. |
| Abdulla bin Mulla Saleh | - His Highness' Secretary. |
| Abdul Karim Abul | - A merchant of standing & His Highness' Financial Agent. |
| Mohomed Jaffer. | - An Egyptian who served with the Turkish Army in Iraq during the last war. He is responsible for keeping His Highness informed of news broadcasts. |
| Yusuf Abdul Latif Al Hamad | - A prominent merchant. |

455. On the 30th four persons were publicly flogged and later imprisoned for being involved in sugar smuggling and a hundred bags of sugar confiscated.

456. A dhow which had been purchased by the Royal Navy and converted for mine watching purposes sank while being towed to Fao on the 22nd.

457. His Majesty's Government have agreed to the increase in import duty from 5% to 6½% being applied to British subjects. A notice applying the Kuwait Government order to British subjects was published by the Political Agent on the 31st of December, 1942.

458. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 68 |
| Minimum temperature: | 43.1 |
| Humidity : | 97% |
| Rainfall : | 0.58" |

459. SHIPPING. See Appendix to the Summary.

2nd January, 1943.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

205

Return of all shipping at Port of Kuwait during the period from 16th to 31st December, 1942.

| Name of steamer. | Nationality. | Name of owner. | Date of arrival. | Date of departure. | No.of Pkgs. landed at Kuwait. | Destination. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S.Wosang. 33. | British. | Indo-China S.N. consigned to B.I. | 17.12.42. | 19.12.42. | 15702 Pkgs. | Kuwait. |
| S.S.Tsinan. 7. | -do- | China N.Co. Consigned to B.I. | 19.12.42. | 19.12.42. | 60 " | -do- |
| S.S.Hunan. 7. | -do- | ---do--- | 20.12.42. | 22.12.42. | 7460 " | -do- |
| S.S.Empire Hazlitt. | -do- | Ministry of War Transport. Consigned to Strick & Ellerman. | 28.12.42. | 29.12.42. | Military Cargo. | |

Sd.E. Fernandez, Agent,
for Gray, Mackenzie & Co., Ltd., Kuwait.

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٢٠٥ظ] (٤١٢/١٢٦٤)

Secret

203
(206)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19.43 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 1.4 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

External Department.

Ext 1577/43.



Subject: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 23 of 1942. (December 1st - 15th).

There is nothing of great interest in this Summary, which is now rather out of date. Paragraph 432 reports the capture of sugar, being smuggled into Iraq, and paragraph 434 a fire on a petrol dhow at Shuwaikh.

M. Colgers.
30/3.

For Information.

E.W.R. Lumby.
1.iv.43.

4.iv.

5/4

3/iv/43

6/4.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET.

No. 23 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

419. Lieutenenant R.A. Miall, R.N.R., left for Abadan and Khorramshahr on the 1st and returned on the 12th.

420. The Political Agent left for Umm Qasr on tour on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

421. Captain Wheatcroft, R.E., and Lieutenant Raymond, R.E., arrived from Basra on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

422. Lieutenant S.H. Powell, R.N.R., Marine Officer, arrived from Basra on the 7th.

423. Captain M.N. Mason, Assistant Editor of "Parade" accompanied by a photographer arrived from Cairo on the 11th and returned to Basra on the 4th. ?14th

424. Mr. A.L. Kirkbride, British Resident in Trans-Jordan arrived on the12th and left on the 13th.

425. The Political Agent left for Bahrain via Basra on the 13th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

426. Messrs. C.E. Rooke and W.F. Reith of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Abadan, arrived on the 5th by Company's plane. Mr. Rooke returned by Company's plane on the 9th.

427. Mr. C.E. Warr of the Inspection Department of the Imperial Bank Of Iran, Tehran, arrived on the 5th and returned on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

428. His Highness the Ruler left on a hawking expedition on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

429. Shaikh Subah as Salim, Director of Police, went to Geysumah on the 2nd to meet Shaikh Mohommad bin Isa Al Khalifah and returned on the 7th.

430. Shaikh Fahad as Salim, Director Of Finance, left for Geysumah on the 8th and returned on the 14th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

431. His Highness issued an Alan on the 9th instructing all merchants to re-register their stocks of sugar and tea with the Security Department.

432. On the 10th Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak, Director of Public Security, captured 170 bags of sugar about to be smuggled to Iraq. The sugar has been confiscated and smugglers are under trial.

433. Haji Abdullah Al Nafisi, Saudi Government Agent, died on the 9th. His duties are being carried out by his eldest son Abdul Aziz Al Nafisi pending the appointment of a newagent.

434. A serious fire occurred on the evening of the 11th at Shuwaikh. A dhow under charter to the Sea Transport Officer and loaded with several thousand four gallon tins of 100 octain petrol burstø into flames. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's vessel the

SECRET. No. 25 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

419. Lieutenant R.A. Niall, R.N.R., left for Abadan and Khorramshahr on the 1st and returned on the 12th.

420. The Political Agent left for Umm Qasr on tour on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

421. Captain Wheatcroft, R.E., and Lieutenant Raymond, R.E., arrived from Basra on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

422. Lieutenant S.H. Powell, R.N.R., Marine Officer, arrived from Basra on the 7th.

423. Captain M.H. Mason, Assistant Editor of "Parade" accompanied by a photographer arrived from Cairo on the 11th and returned to Basra on the 4th.

424. Mr. A.S. Kirkbride, British Resident in Trans-Jordan arrived on the 12th and left on the 13th.

425. The Political Agent left for Bahrain via Basra on the 13th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

426. Messrs. C.E. Rooke and W.F. Heith of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Abadan, arrived on the 5th by Company's plane. Mr. Rooke returned by Company's plane on the 9th.

427. Mr. C.E. Warr of the Inspection Department of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Tehran, arrived on the 5th and returned on the 11th.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

428. His Highness the Ruler left on a hawking expedition on the 2nd and returned on the 4th.

429. Shaikh Subah as Salim, Director of Police, went to Qeyaumah on the 2nd to meet Shaikh Mohammad bin Isa Al Khalifah and returned on the 7th.

430. Shaikh Fahad as Salim, Director of Finance, left for Qeyaumah on the 8th and returned on the 14th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

431. His Highness issued an Alan on the 5th instructing all merchants to re-register their stocks of sugar and tea with the Security Department.

432. On the 10th Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak, Director of Public Security, captured 170 bags of sugar about to be smuggled to Iraq. The sugar has been confiscated and smugglers are under trial.

433. Haji Abdullah Al Nafisi, Saudi Government Agent, died on the 9th. His duties are being carried out by his eldest son Abdul Aziz Al Nafisi pending the appointment of a new agent.

434. A serious fire occurred on the evening of the 11th at Shuwaikh. A dhow under charter to the Sea Transport Officer and loaded with several thousand four gallon tins of 100 octain petrol burst into flames. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's vessel the

"Tarraqi" from which the petrol was being transhipped, very right and properly, as she still had several thousand tins on board, moved up the harbour out of danger from the ~~exxxx~~ burning craft. The A.I.O.C. tug "Herald" made no effort to remove other dhows from the vicinity of the burning vessel but after the fire had been burning for nearly an hour she did venture to approach the wreck which was then drifting away from an A.I.O.C. barge, also loaded with petrol, and spray the barge. After spraying the barge the "Herald made a half hearted attempt to spray the drifting dhow which was blazing fiercely but the effort was not sustained for on the turn of the tide the dhow, still well alight, drifted on to the beach much to the alarm of the barge assembly personnel of Messrs. Foley Prentice & Co. who took immediate precautions to see that the fire did not spread to their premises.

The dhows in the immediate vicinity of the wreck all succeeded in slipping their anchors and drifted away on the strong tide with the exception of one anchored up stream which was said to have 2000 tins of petrol on board. Three volunteers from Messrs. Foley Bros. and an interpreter went off in a "Eureka" with coolies and took the vessel in tow and moved her up stream out of harms way. The volunteers were somewhat disappointed to discover that the dhow contained not petrol but dates;still neither the vessel nor her crew would have been unharmed had the burning dhow blown up for she was scarcely seventy yards away. Later the "Eureka" made a sweep round to see if any other vessels were in danger.

435. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 79 |
| Minimum temperature: | 51 |
| Humidity: | 97% |
| Rainfall: | 0.80" |

436. SHIPPING.

Nil.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th December, 1942.

Confidential

206 P.A. M.O. 28/1

(209)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 43 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 15.1 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 16 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

30/45 (2)

Ext 7076/42

SUBJECT: KOWEIT — Intelligence Summary No 22 (November 16th - 30th).

An interesting, if depressing, note on the food situation in Central and North Eastern Arabia is attached to this Summary.

Paragraphs of interest in the Summary are:-

407. Smuggling of sugar.

412. Imports of quota goods.

415. Postponement of Appeal in Dalé Gardens case

M. Odgers 7/1

For Information. [illegible] 13/1

E. and O. Secretary

to see paras. 408 and 412. A copy of the annexed note has already been sent to you. EWR Lumby 11.1.43

[illegible] 25/1

[illegible] 26/1



(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

No. 22 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November, 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

397. Reference paragraph 376 of Kuwait Summary No.21. The Political Agent returned from Fao on the 16th.

398. Mr. Embury, Assistant to the Commercial Counsellor, British Embassy, Baghdad accompanied by Mr. Macleod of H.B.M's Consulate General, Basra arrived on the 29th and left for Basra by car on the 30th.

399. Two Officers and a Reconnaissance Party of the 13th Lancers visited Kuwait on the 26th and left for the Batin on the 27th.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

400. Reference paragraph 386 of Kuwait Summary No,21. Mr. P.M. Brown returned to Basra on the 17th.

401. Reference paragraph 380 of Kuwait Summary No.21. Mr. E.A. Connolly returned to Basra on the 19th

402. Reference paragraph 378 of Kuwait Summary No.21. Mr. F.J. Wakelin returned to Bahrain on the 19th.

403. Major General D.H. Connolly and Brigadier General S.I. Scott of the Army of the United States accompanied by a numerous staff arrived by air on the 21st and after visiting the Agency and inspecting the barge building returned to Basra by air the same day.

404. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company Abadan arrived on the 22nd by Company's plane and returned on the 23rd.

405. Mr. D.A. Campbell, Accountant and Labour Officer, Kuwait Oil Company left for Haifa on the 25th to take up an appointment with Consolidated Refineries Limited.

LOCAL OFFICIALS.

406. Reference paragraph 383 of Kuwait Summary No.21. Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., and party returned from Baghdad on the 25th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

407. During the period under report Shaikh Mohammad al Jabir, Port Director, while patroling in the Kuwait Bay seized three sailing boats smuggling sugar. The boat-men were arrested,

408. Reference paragraph 386 of Kuwait Summary No.21. Messrs. Gray Mackenzie's agent has still not received any instructions nor have the Saudi Arabian Government sent any orders to their Trade Agent so the scheme has not yet come into force.

409. Reference paragraph 389 of Kuwait Summary No.21. Work is continuing satisfactorily.

Repair of Telegraph Line between Kuwait & Zubair

410. Reference paragraph 393 of Kuwait Summary No.21.
Work has temporally ceased thirty six miles from Kuwait owing to the linesman having run out of wire. He has communicated with his superiors in the Indian Post and Telegraphs Department.

411. Reference paragraph 391 of Kuwait Summary No.21.
The sovereign exchange rate has risen to Rs.58. On second thoughts the general public have decided that the war is not yet over and that there are other problems besides that of Rommel to be solved.

412. The following quota goods were discharged from the S.S. "Barala" on the 24th:-
Rice 6548 bags
Wheat and wheat flour 1491 bags.
The total imports for the month being:-
Rice 16,276 bags
Wheat and wheat flour 3,017 bags
Barley 649 bags.

HAJ.

413. Prince Ismail Mirza grand son of the late Nasir Uddin, Shah of Persia accompanied by his Secretary Aghai Ahmad Fardi and a servant arrived here on the afternoon of the 28th on his way to Mecca. Prince Ismail called on the Political Agent on the 28th and the Political Agent returned his call on the 29th. The Agency gave all possible assistance to the Prince during his stay here. He left for Mecca on the 30th.

6715

414. Reference paragraph 367 of Kuwait Summary No.20.
Very many Persian pilgrims have arrived for the Haj this year and owing to the scarcity of mechanical transport fares have been very high reaching Rs.1,500 for each individual seat in a lorry carrying twenty passengers for the round trip Kuwait-Mecca-Madinah-Kuwait. The high rates attracted lorry owners from Basrah and Baghdad with the result that the arrival of additional vehicles brought the price down to Rs.750 a head by the end of the month.
In spite of Ibn Saud's clear and concise orders to his agent here not to permit vehicles to be used which are not in a serviceable condition and carrying a reasonable quantity of spare parts and tyres it is very doubtful if some of the lorries will ever reach Riyadh. It is strongly rumoured that Abdullah bin Suliman has advised the local agent here to relax his vigilance in the case of one or two lorry contractors in whom he is financially interested.

DATE GARDEN CASE.

6085.
3121.

415. Reference paragraph 298 of Kuwait Summary No.16.
The appeal was heard on the 14th November and once again postponed, this time until December ~~18th~~ for the original Power of Attorney to be produced. His Highness'Counsel have obtained the document from the office of the Notary Public Basra where it had been lodged in accordance with the law and will produce it in Court at the next hearing. It will be interesting to see what further excuse the learned Judge of the learned Counsel for the Shaikh's opponents will produce for the next adjournment.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 417. | Maximum temperature | 81.0° |
| | Minimum temperature | 58.0° |
| | Humidity | 95.0% |
| | Rainfall | 0.34". |

SHIPPING

418. See appendix to this summary.

December 1st.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Note:
Owing to the necessity for economising paper only to copies Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 13, 14, and 19 has been attached a note on the food situation in that part of Saudi Arabia with which Kuwait has contacts. The note has been compiled by an officer of very considerable experience and great understanding of the people and the information has in all cases been obtained from non-official sources.

Return of all shipping entered and cleared at Port of Kuwait, during the period from 16th to 30th November, 1942.

| Name of Steamer | Nationality | Name of Owners | Date of arrival | Date of departure | No.of Packages landed at Kuwait. | Destination | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S.S.Talaveera. | Indian. | Scindia S.N.Co. xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx | 16.11.42. | 17.11.42. | N I L. | Kuwait. | Hired Transport |
| S.S.Wosang. | British. | Indo-China S.N. Co. Consigned to B.I. | 17.11.42. | 19.11.42. | 343 Pkges K.D.Barges. | " | Govt.Cargo. |
| S.S.HoiHow. | -do- | China N.Co. Consigned to B.I. | 22.11.42. | 23.11.42. | 91 ---do--- | " | |
| S.S.Barala. | -do- | B.I.S.N.Co. | 24.11.42. | 25.11.42. | 8339 Pkges. | " | |

210

(213)

# DISTRIBUTION.

1. The India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
7. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O.3 "W", General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
8. The Combined Intelligence Centre, Iraq, C/O British Embassy, Baghdad.
9. The 2nd Indian Division, Baghdad.
10. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
11. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
12. The Officer Commanding, R.A.F. Station, Basra.
13. The Political Agent, Muscat.
14. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
15. The Staff Officer (Intelligence) Persian Gulf, Bahrain.
16. His Majesty's Consul General, Basra.
17. His Majesty's Consul, Khorramshahr.
18. The Resident Adviser, The Residency, Mukalla (via Aden).
19. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (through P.A. Bahrain)
20. Headquarters, Lines of Communication Area, Basra.

## A NOTE.

### ON THE FOOD SITUATION IN CENTRAL AND NORTH EASTERN SAUDI-ARABIA.

1. It is not any easy matter to get reliable data from the interior of Saudi Arabia, as to the present food and clothing difficulties which the people are having to face, but it may be taken as generally correct that

   (a) In the towns everywhere there is a fairly plentiful supply of foodstuffs of all kinds.
   (b) Among the tribes there, partial famine conditions prevail, there being a very serious shortage of food, which is likely to get worse.

2. Under (a) it follows that the towns on the seaboard or those lying close to the sea, like Qatif, Jubail and Hofuf are much better off than the towns in Central Arabia, where cost of transportation has caused prices to reach an unheard of level.
While under (b) the rains having been better in 1940 and 1941 south of a rough line drawn East and West through Majmaa (a little north of Riyadh) the tribes in Sourthern Hasa and Nejd are in less critical condition than those whose habitat lies north of this line.

3. The worst area from the food point of view is perhaps the Northern frontier belt of Saudi Arabia on the line Kuwait to Hail with a zone depth of some 200 miles south of this line, and probably the hardest hit of all Saudi Arabian tribes are the HARB and SHAMMAR groups of tribes, and to a less extent the bordering Iraq tribes of the Dhafir and Dahamsha whose habitat lies immediately north of this zone.

4. In this drought affected zone one may say that famine conditions prevail today (autumn 1942) and sheep and camels which have died of starvation are being regularly eaten by the hungry everywhere, though forbidden by religion. It naturally follows that there is an unusually high mortality rate among the Badawin in this zone, especially among women and children, although one may confidently say that had it not been for the relief measures instituted this summer by His Majesty King Abdul Aziz, who has used his state lorries unstintingly to convey food to the worse hit areas, the death rate would have been high indeed.
The reasons for the above state of affairs can be summed up as follows:-

   (a) Two years failure of rains in North Central Arabia, resulting in failure of the hay crop and so in a record mortality among camels.
   (b) Lack of money among the Badawin making it impossible for them to buy food or clothing at the high prices prevailing.
   (c) The Iraq Government's embargo on the export of dates, the staple food of the Northern Saudi Arabian Badawin, and the prohibitive price of the smuggled out article. (Dates were Rs.3/- per maund in 1941 at Hafar they are Rs.36/- today).
   (d) The poor condition of camels everywhere, which makes it impossible for the owners to use them for "musabilah" purposes, i.e. they are too weak to make the journey up to the towns where food supplies are available, whether in Iraq, Kuwait or Hasa.
   (e) The lack of date "pips" for feeding sheep when grazing no longer exists. (Kuwait and Hasa only).
   (f) The reduced supplies that are coming from India.

2.

(g) The refusal of town shopkeepers everywhere to give credit to the Bedawin, as they used to do, against them with stock - This hit them harder than anything else perhaps.

5. Below will be found the prices of foodstuffs ruling today in (a) Qatif, Al Khobar, Jubail and Hufuf (Hasa Province) (b) Riyadh. together with a detailed resume of the food situation as existing among the tribes of Hasa, and the Summan region (Safa, Haba, Hafar al Batin, Ajibba etc.), together with some of the measures instituted by the King to ease the situation.

6. Qatif and Jubail areas.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rice | - Ballam (Calcutta) costs | | Rs.50/- per bag |
| " | - Karachi | " | " 36/- " " |
| " | - Hura | " | " 36/- " " |
| " | - Mazza | " | " 36/- " " |

A fairly plentiful supply of the above exists in the above towns, and a bag at a time may be purchased by any well known person, if permission is asked for from local Government. The ordinary public are allowed to buy only a local Waggiyeh at a time (4 lbs).

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sugar | - 4 lbs (waggiyeh) cost | | Rs.2/- |
| | a bag of 224 lbs | " | " 95/- |
| Wheat | - | | Nil. |
| Flour Indian | a bag | " | Rs.50/- |
| Barley | | | Nil |
| Tea | - 4 lbs(waggiyeh) | " | Rs.9/- |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 4 lbs (waggiyeh) cost | | Rs.5/- |

The export of the above is prohibited.

7. Hufuf Area.
Prices are same as above plus transportation charges.

8. Dates.
The two main sources of supply in Eastern and Central Arabia are Qatif and Hasa (Hufuf) The former produces a poor quality date, and the latter a first class fruit.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Qatif Dates. | Cost of a "gausara) small basket of 40 lbs | Rs.2/4 |
| | Cost of a maund 80 lbs | " 4/8 |
| Hufuf Dates. | Cost of a "galla" 135 lbs. | Rs.6/- |
| | Cost of a Hasa maund 540 lbs. | " 12/- |

NOTE (a) The above prices compare very favourably with the Kuwait "gausara" (90 lbs) and maund (180 lbs) which cost Rs.9/- and Rs.18/- respectively (30.11.42)
(b) Export of both Qatif and Hufuf dates is entirely prohibited, and the price very strictly controlled hence the low cost.
The supply however is limited.
Bin Saud has ordered all Hasa Badawin tribes living in the vicinity of Qatif to only purchase date supplies from that town, and other tribes whose habitat is nearer the Hasa oasis, to purchase from Hufuf only.
This applies to the Bani Khalid, Bani Hagir, Adwan, Zab and certain sections of the Manasir and Murra tribes.

9. The Awazim and Ajman tribes of North and Central Hasa, are required to "sabil" to Jubail or Hufuf, but as their camels are in good condition, due to late spring rains having fallen in 1942 in South Hasa which gave good grazing, the long journey South is not much of a hardship.

10. Riyadh Area.
Here prices of food and clothing rule much higher than on the coast as will be seen below. This again is due to the cost and difficulty to obtain transport.

2.

(g) The refusal of town shopkeepers everywhere to give credit to the Bedawin, as they used to do, against them with stock - This hit them harder than anything else perhaps.

5. Below will be found the prices of foodstuffs ruling today in (a) Qatif, Al Khobar, Jubail and Hufuf (Hasa Province) (b) Riyadh, together with a detailed resume of the food situation as existing among the tribes of Hasa, and the Summan region (Safa, Haba, Hafar al Batin, Ajibba etc.), together with some of the measures instituted by the King to ease the situation.

6. Qatif and Jubail areas.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Rice | - Ballam (Calcutta) | costs | Rs.50/- per bag |
| " | - Karachi | " | " 36/- " " |
| " | - Hura | " | " 36/- " " |
| " | - Mazza | " | " 36/- " " |

A fairly plentiful supply of the above exists in the above towns, and a bag at a time may be purchased by any well known person, if permission is asked for from local Government. The ordinary public are allowed to buy only a local Waggiyah at a time (4 lbs.).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sugar | - 4 lbs (waggiyah) cost | Rs.2/- |
| | a bag of 224 lbs " | " 95/- |
| Wheat | - | Nil. |
| Flour Indian | a bag " | Rs.50/- |
| Barley | | Nil |
| Tea | - 4 lbs(waggiyah) " | Rs.9/- |
| Ghi (clarified butter) | 4 lbs (waggiyah) cost | Rs.5/- |

The export of the above is prohibited.

7. Hufuf Area.

Prices are same as above plus transportation charges.

8. Dates.

The two main sources of supply in Eastern and Central Arabia are Qatif and Hasa (Hufuf) The former produces a poor quality date, and the latter a first class fruit.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Qatif Dates. | Cost of a "gausara" small basket of 40 lbs | Rs.2/4 |
| | Cost of a maund 80 lbs | " 4/8 |
| Hufuf Dates. | Cost of a "galla" 135 lbs. | Rs.6/- |
| | Cost of a Hasa maund 540 lbs. | " 12/- |

NOTE (a) The above prices compare very favourably with the Kuwait "gausara" (90 lbs) and maund (180 lbs) which cost Rs.9/- and Rs.18/- respectively (30.11.42).

(b) Export of both Qatif and Hufuf dates is entirely prohibited, and the price very strictly controlled hence the low cost. The supply however is limited.

Bin Saud has ordered all Hasa Bedawin tribes living in the vicinity of Qatif to only purchase date supplies from that town, and other tribes whose habitat is nearer the Hasa oasis, to purchase from Hufuf only.

This applies to the Bani Khalid, Beni Hajir, Ajman, Dab and certain sections of the Manasir and Murra tribes.

9. The Awazim and Ajman tribes of North and Central Hasa, are required to "Sabil" to Jubail or Hufuf, but as their camels are in good condition, due to late spring rains having fallen in 1942 in South Hasa which gave good grazing, the long journey South is not much of a hardship.

10. Riyadh Area.

Here prices of food and clothing rule much higher than on the coast as will be seen below. This again is due to the cost and difficulty to obtain transport.

214
(217)

3.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rice Karachi | cost per bag | Rs.45/- |
| Rice Hura | " " " | " 60/- |
| Flour Nejd | " " " | " 40/- |
| Sugar (224 lb bag) | | " 70/- |
| Coffee | " " " | " 90/- |
| Hail (Cardamum) 25 lb bag | | " 70/- |
| Ghi per waggiyeh 4 lbs | | " 3/- |
| Dates per Hasa "galla" (135 lbs) | | " 9/- |
| " " " maund (540 lbs) | | " 36/- |

Cloth and cotton goods are at famine prices, and an ordinary abba which costs Rs.40/- in Kuwait today fetches Rs.80/- to Rs.90/- in Riyadh.

11. In Riyadh, the town population, which is under the immediate eye of the King gets well cared for while the Badawin in the vicinity of the capital (SBEI,SAHUL,QAHTAN etc.) have been able to send their camels and sheep to the South where grazing is better, hence the condition of the camels is fairly good which means that not too much food shortage exists among these tribes. They are very short of clothing however.

12. In Riyadh town itself four separate food "mudhifs" or free cooked food centres have been opened by the King as below:

(a) For strangers and visitors
(b) For Town women
(c) For Badawin men and women
(d) For town men.

Also at Bmban (20 miles North of Riyadh) where a camp has been organized for destitute Badawin who have lost all their camels and sheep and have flocked into Riyadh for help, three more free food centres have been set up.

(a) For Badawin women
(b) For Badawin old men
(c) For Badawin youths and children.

13. The well Areas of Jeriya Illya, Safa, Haba, Garaa', Hafar al Batin, Um al Thuma, Ajibba, Lina and South Westwards to Hail.

This very approximately is the centre line of the 200 miles wide drought zone mentioned above.
All the above places are Badawin camping grounds pure and simple, and each have had very large camps on them during the past summer, running in some cases to 2000 tents.
In the vicinity of Safa, Haba and Garaa', grazing for camels has been fairly good, and the Mutair herds although not fat have not died in numbers during the summer as have Harb camels for instance. They are however in no condition to make the 10 day journey to Zubair, Kuwait or Jubail for supplies, even if there were no restrictions at the first two places.
Hence the Badawin population at these places relies today on the Kings motor transport to bring them rice and dates. (The hire of a lorry from Kuwait to the first five well areas mentioned above is about Rs.250/-, a figure quite beyond the means of the ordinary Badawin or group of them.)

14. <u>In the Hafar, Ajibba, Um al Thuma and Lina Areas</u> the grazing has been particularly bad during the summer and the food supply question has been and is, precarious. The Badawin camped there have lost enormous numbers of their camels and sheep owing, as mentioned above, to the two years failure of rain in Northern Nejd, and today the camels that survive are too weak to be used for "musabila" (carrying supplies). This situation will remain until the spring of 1943, when they may recover condition if the rains are good/ this coming winter. So bad is the state of affairs that many Badawin families have not been able to move from the wells this year at all, owing to their having lost all their camels. This in itself is a disaster as it makes it not only impossible to get supplies for themselves, but

4.

they have not the means wherewith to buy same even if they could hire camels, with prices at the prohibitive figure now existing in the towns. (Example a basket of dates at Hafar is Rs.35/-) Many of these poor people therefore are faced literally with starvation and possible death this winter.

15. The situation at Hafar and Westwards has become so desperate that King Abdul Aziz two months ago ordered lorries with supplies to go to Hafar and many well areas further West, and to give each tent dweller a bag of rice, a Nejd maund of dates and a roll of cotton cloth, also according to the mans condition and status a sum of money ranging from Rials 10/- to Rials 20/- each. Anyone also who normally is in receipt of a stipend ('aada) from the King, and was accustomed to go up to Riyadh to get it in the Autumn, has had his yearly subsidy sent him.

16. Other well areas far to the West in the direction of Hail have been treated in the same way, while nearer home notably at Jeriyah al Ilya and Nta food magazines have been set up in readiness for whole sale rationing of the nomad population.

17. In the Qasim, and especially in the towns of Buraida and Hail (Jabal Shammar) the King has for sometime past has had food centres going which distribute free meals as in Riyadh. Though it must be admitted that the townsmen here are better off than the Badawin, as they can get small quantities of locally grown wheat and dates, also there are market gardens everywhere in the vicinity of townships. Nor do they depend on rice from India for food as do most of the Badu, being brought up to eat bread instead.

18. In summing up the above points one thing we may definitely say, that is that there is far greater poverty and actual hunger among the Nejd tribes today than among any Kuwait Badawin, and the latter are having a bad enough time as we know, chiefly because their principal diet dates is either unobtainable ~~far~~ or beyond their meagre purse.

--------------------

Kuwait,
30.11.42.

SECRET

P.A. 216
M.O. (219)
1/2.

| Notes for Registry. | | 1943 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Copy of para. 393 to Koweit Post Office file. | Under Secretary... | 7.1 | RM |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 12 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

30/4 (2)

Ext 6885/42.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT: Intelligence Summary No 21 (November 1st - 15th).

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

376. Visit of the Political Agent to Fao. The Fao Municipality has laid claim to the fish and meat market, owned by the Sheikh.

385. Barge assembly for the I.W.T., Basra.

386. Decision to introduce the Saudi Arabian Supply Scheme for quota goods ~~which~~ found the Saudi Arabian Government and Messrs Gray Mackenzie unprepared.

388. Contract for the carriage of bitumen.

389. Work commenced on extension of the air field, and new markings for runways.

391. Local reaction to Allied successes.

[initials] 25/1
[initials] 26/1
[initials] 26/1

28 JAN 1943

SEEN POL. CTTEE.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

392. Food situation.

393. Twenty miles of telegraph line between Koweit and Zubair repaired.

M. Odgers.
23/12.

Secretary E & O Dept. [initials] 4/1.

To see paragraphs. 386 & 392.

E.W.R. Lumby.
28. XII. 42.

[signature] to see No 386, - not good reading! [initials] 31/XII

Arrangements for the introduction of the scheme mentioned in No. 386 were made by the Political Resident (presumably in consultation with Koweit). The statement that the local people were found unprepared accordingly makes strange reading.

[initials] 4/1.

SECRET No.21 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th November, 1942.

Note: The letter "P" in the margin denotes "matter non-confidential" and may be released for publication, if considered suitable.

BRITISH OFFICIALS

371. Lieutenant F.H. Allen (Field Security) visited Kuwait on the 1st. His visit was in connection with an enquiry into the theft of 20,000 M & B 693 tablets from Shaibah.

372. Major F. Smith and Captain C. Smith of the Royal Artillery, Abadan arrived on the 7th by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane and returned on the 9th.

373. Captain L.D. Naggiar, Claims Officer, Basrah visited Kuwait on the 12th.

374. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 5th.

375. Reference paragraph 357 of Kuwait Summary No.20. Wing Commander Wiblin returned to Basrah by R.A.F. plane on the 14th.

376. Reference paragraph 298 of Kuwait Summary No. 16. On the 15th the Political Agent visited Fao and discussed the usual topics with the Mudir and the local chief of police. The Iraqi officials were very civil and the police courteous and helpful. While at Fao the Political Agent inspected the fish and meat market about which there has been some correspondence. It is a narrow shed some thirty feet in length with no walls and a substantial roof and a concrete floor, two thirds of the length are devoted to the sale of meat and the remaining third to the sale of fish. A mean affair. It is situated in the midst of the dwellings of the Port employees and seems to be used by them almost exclusively. The dwellings in the neighbourhood are the property of His Highness as is this "Market".

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

377. Reference paragraph 359 of Kuwait Summary No.20, Mr. Keast of the Imperial Bank of Iran left for Baghdad on the 1st.

378. Mr. F.J. Wakelin, Educational Adviser for Bahrain and Kuwait arrived on the 3rd.

379. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., of the A.I.O.C., Abadan arrived on the 7th by Company's plane and returned on the 9th.

380. Mr. E.A. Connolly of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Basrah arrived here on the 7th.

KUWAIT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

381. On the 1st Shaikh Sultan bin Muhailib of the Mutair called on the Political Agent, he was accompanied by a minor Shaikh of the Diahin.

218 (221)

-2-

5779. 382. Reference paragraph 329 of Kuwait Summary No.19.
Shaikh Abdullah Al Jabir As Subah, the Chief Judge and Director of Education, returned from Baghdad on the 1st. He spoke with gratitude of the courtesy and kindness shown to him by His Majesty's Embassy and the Directorate of Public Relations. With the exception of the Prime Minister he does not seem to have been favourably impressed by the various Iraqi politicians with whom he came into contact.

383. Shaikh Abdullah Salim C.I.E., accompanied by Shaikh Salim al Hamood and Shaikh Abdullah al Khalifah a brother of the late Shaikh Ali al Khalifah C.I.E., left for Baghdad on the 3rd to consult their various medical advisers. Information has now been received that the first and last named have been successfully operated on and that Shaikh Salim al Hamood has diabetes in an advanced stage.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

384. On the 2nd the Political Agent resumed his series of dinner parties and Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak the Director of Public Security, Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, Shaikh Mohamad al Jabir, the Port Director, Shaikh Salim al Hamood and His Highness' Secretary were present.

5779. 385. Reference paragraph 246 of Kuwait Summary No 19.
Negotiations have been in progress between Captain Santelman of the United States Engineers and Haji Ahmad bin Salman the barge assembly contractor. The negotiations which were conducted at the Agency were due to the simpler construction of the barges now arriving for assembly which enable one barge to be completed in seven days as against the fourteen days required to assemble the earlier Higgin type. The previous contract rate was Rs.1,800/- a barge excluding the cost of transporting the contractor's workmen from the town to the assembly plant. After some pressure had been exerted by the Agency it was agreed that the new rate would be Rs.1,000/- a barge and the contractor would find his own transport.

The assembly plant is doing very well and turning out just a fraction of over two barges a day but it is not working to full capacity as I.W.T. seem to be incapable of taking the barges away at the present rate of production and there are normally fifteen or more barges awaiting removal.

5846. 386. Reference paragraph 365 of Kuwait Summary No.20.
The decision to introduce the Saudi Arabian Supply Scheme for quota goods has found both the Saudi Arabian Government and Messrs. Gray Mackenzie unprepared. The Saudi Arabian Trade Agent here is still without instructions from his Government and consequently will not and cannot take any action to implement the scheme. In spite of a personal visit by the Political Agent to Basrah to see the General Manager in September and conversations with the manager of Gray Mackenzie in Bahrain no action whatever seems to have been taken locally by the firm to open credits or perfect their organisation. In response to a request by the Political Agent a Mr. Brown arrived from Basrah on the 14th and stated in the course of an interview on the 17th that the General Manager had no control over their Agency here which was under Bahrain, that they had no intention of sending a European here, that they in Basrah had only a vague idea of the scheme, that they had perfect confidence in the efficiency of their Goanese agent and his capability to handle £.12,000 a month with perfect honesty, and that he could not say when they would be prepared to start functioning as he would have to communicate with London and Bahrain.

The/

The Political Agent gave him all the information that was possible and expressed his doubts of the agent's honesty and his certainty of his inefficiency.

387. On the 5th Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak gave a large and uninspiring dinner party at his house at Mishraf. His Highness and the Political Agent together with a miscellaneous collection of British, Americans, and Arabs were invited.

4379

388. Reference paragraph 265 of Kuwait Summary No.15. The contract for the carriage of Bitumen has changed hands and is now held by Saadun bin Jassim al Yakub a brother of the ex-Director of Customs. The Agency has no idea of the actual terms of the contract which has presumably been concluded as all the negotiations have been conducted by the Royal Engineers in Iraq, only the original notice calling for tenders was issued by the Agency. It is to be hoped that the new contractors will prove efficient and less troublesome than Messrs. Ahmad al Ghanim and Sons.

4379

389. Reference paragraph 275 of Kuwait Summary No.15. Work has been commenced on the air field extensions and the new markings for the runways.

390. Shaikh Abdullah Jabir the Chief Judge and Director of Education gave a dinner party on the 9th in honour of Mr. Wakelin the Educational Adviser which was attended by His Highness and the Political Agent and a numerous assembly of Shaikhs and officials.

A previous Summary said that the sovereign falls whenever the Allies are successful

391. The news of our successes was received with excitement and joy. The sovereign, an excellent barometer of popular feeling fell from Rs.61/- to Rs.51/- in three days and found no buyers at this latter figure. His Highness gave instructions that he was to be informed immediately when news of importance was received and that these instructions applied to the night as well as the day. The capture of Tobruk was greeted with particular joy and the landings in French North Africa signified the beginning of Hitler's end to the optimists. The Shaikh commented on the apparent lack of enthusiasm on the part of the Europeans and in particular on the part of Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., and the Political Agent the two of whom he sees most. The answer is that the Europeans had no doubt that North Africa would be cleared of the Germans in due course but that the Arabs here, even the loyalest of them, had doubts of our power to save Alexandria and Egypt and their pleasure has allied to it relief, a very potent emotion.

5774

392. Reference paragraph 343 of Kuwait Summary No.19. The arrival of a consignment of 9028 bags of rice, 1526 bags of wheat and flour and 649 bags of barley temporarily eased the local food situation but we are still woefully behind in our quota allotment and while the information from India shows that the merchants have succeeded in acquiring some rice they are unable to find shipping space. No rice has been received from Bengal since the inception of the quota scheme 3½ months ago and there is no indication that any has yet been shipped. The Kuwait cum Saudi Arabia quota from Calcutta should be 304 tons a month.

393. Twenty miles of the telegraph line between Kuwait and Zubair have been repaired by the Indian Telegraphs Department during the period under review.

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٢٢٢ظ] (١٢٦٤/٤٤٦)

-4-

394. EXCHANGE RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars | Rs.240 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.106 - 4 |
| 1 Iraqi dinar | Rs. 12 -14 |
| 1 £. (gold sovereign) | Rs. 51 - 0. |

395. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 91.5° |
| Minimum temperature | 62.7° |
| Humidity | 91.0° |

Kuwait,
November 18th, 1942.

Sd, T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

S E C R E T

| Notes for Registry. | | 1942 | Initials. | 224 P.A. M.O. 221 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 23.12 | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 30 | | Ext. 6715/42 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Subject:

Koweit Intelligence Summary
No. 20
(October 16th to 31st)

Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

350. Violation of the Frontier by an Iraqi patrol car.

358. Kuwait Oil Company - charge handed over to Lieutenant-Colonel Dickson.

360. Statement by Izzat Jaffar that he had been approached to undertake intelligence work for the British.

363. Arrival of 4 Egyptian school teachers.

364, and 365. Food supplies in Saudi Arabia.

367. Increased expense of the Haj.

8 JAN 1943. Seen Pol. Cttee. 368/

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

368. Report that one of the Sheikh's relatives had been engaged in smuggling tea and sugar into Iraq.

M. Odgers. 16/12.

distinctly better reading
[illegible] 22/XII

Secretary, E. & O. Department.

To see paras. 364 and 365.

Secretary, Financial Department.

To see para. 362

GTB 22/12

E.R. Lumby. 18.XII.

SECRET. No.20 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st October, 1942.

Note:- The letter "P" in the margin denotes "matter non-confidential" and may be released for publication, if considered suitable.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

350. On the 16th the Political Agent when travelling to Umm Qasr by car sighted and later overtook an Iraqi Patrol Car operating on the Kuwait side of the Iraq-Kuwait frontier. When first sighted the car was twenty two miles S.S.E. of Umm Qasr, and when overtaken was sixteen miles S.S.E. of Umm Qasr. On sighting the Political Agent's car the Iraqis made off at high speed but when escape was obviously impossible they turned, stopped, and adopted a somewhat belligerent attitude. The non-commissioned officer in charge was well aware of the fact that he was far inside Kuwait territory but seemed to consider he could go wherever he liked on his anti-smuggling patrols.

351. The Political Agent visited Basra on the 17th in connection with the restriction on the export of dates from His Highness' Gardens at Fao.

352. Reference paragraph 327 of Kuwait Summary No.19. Pilot Officer Heywood, Cypher Officer of the Royal Air Force left for Shaibah on the 16th.

353. Major Dowson, Assistant Political Adviser, Basra arrived on the 17th and returned to Basra on the 18th.

354. Captain J.B. Howes, M.B.E., Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf arrived from Bushire on the 19th and left for Basra on the 21st.

355. Squadron Leader A.C. Bolton and Flight Lieutenant B.M. Castle visited Kuwait on the 22nd.

356. Lieutenant Commander W. Weld-Forester,,His Majesty's Consul, Basra arrived at the Agency on the 24th and left for Basra on the 27th.

357. Wing Commander Wiblin arrived at the Agency on the 29th.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

358. On the 19th Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., handed over charge of the Kuwait Oil Company to Lieutenant-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., the Chief Local Representative of the Company. Mr. Scott left for Abadan on the 21st.

359. Reference paragraph 246 of Kuwait Summary No.14. Mr. E. Matheson returned on the 22nd and resumed his duties on the 28th.

KUWAIT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

360. Reference paragraph 331 of Kuwait Summary No.19. Shaikh Hamood al Jabir and Izzat Jaffar returned to Kuwait on the 27th. Izzat Jaffar in the course of an interview he had with the Political Agent on the 28th stated that

he/

223

(226)

-2-

he had been well received on his travels and that a certain Captain Mahroon Arab, who he stated was in some way connected with the British Consulate-General, Beirut, had approached him with a suggestion that he should undertake Intelligence work. Izzat seems to have replied that he would do anything if paid well enough to make it worth his while leaving the Shaikh of Kuwait's employ and has been told that he will receive instructions through the Political Authorities in Kuwait.

Ext 1998/42.
It was suggested that he might be interested in smuggling sugar to Iraq & Persia

361. Reference paragraph No.24 of Kuwait Summary No.2.
It now seems that Yusuf Jassim al Yakub, the Director of Customs tiring of receiving no replies to his letters of resignation has assumed that they have been accepted and has left the Customs and is engaged in private trade. A successor has not yet been appointed and the Department is working efficiently without a head a by no means unusual phenomenon and one which is not confined solely to the departments of the Kuwait Government.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

362. Reference paragraph 338 of Kuwait Summary No.19.
On the 18th the Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran informed the Political Agent that Mohammad al Majbil as Shamekh, a Saudi Arabian subject had taken delivery of Rials 45,000/- and had stated that he was taking them to Trans-Jordan though for what purpose was not specified.

363. Reference paragraph 229 of Kuwait Summary No.13.
Four school teachers arrived on the 25th from Egypt. It is rumoured that they are employees of the Egyptian Educational Department, and they undoubtedly endeavoured to send a very pretentious telegram describing themselves as the"Egyptian Educational Mission" but they each have individual contracts with the Kuwait Government in which there is no mention of their being a Mission, educational, or otherwise.

364. Shaikh Dahham as Sha'lan and his brother Shaikh Mut'eb as Sha'lan of the Ruallah arrived from Riyadh on the 27th en route to Basra and called on the Political Agent on the 28th. In answer to questions they both said that there were ample supplies in Riyadh and no sign of any shortage.

365. Reference paragraph 340 of Kuwait Summary No.19.
The food position in Hasa and Hofuf and Eastern Nejd seems to have improved very considerably during the last three weeks. Travellers arriving from Hofuf state that there is ample rice on sale at Rs.34 a bag, wheat at Rs.36 a bag and sugar at Rs.95 a bag. Dates are said to be sold at a control price of Rs.24 a basket and well baked bread of high quality is being sold freely.
Information from Hafar shows that ample supplies are held there and at Jariyah al Iliyah, though prices are higher than in Hofuf. Sugar is Rs.100 a bag, rice Rs.40 a bag, and wheat Rs.41 a bag.
This is very cheering news and shows that the food situation though by no means satisfactory is not as acute as reports received during the Bahrain Conference had led one to suppose.

366. It is reported that Mohammad bin Turki bin Mijlad is still at Hafar endeavouring to settle a difficulty over some camels which he brought into Saudi Arabia. Some of the camels did not belong to him and were taken charge of by Ibn Saud for safe keeping. It seems that Mohammad bin Turki is not permitted to take out of Saudi Arabia property which does not belong to him.
It is stated that following a three years truce being

arranged/

-3-

arranged by Amman and Iraqi officials between the warring sections of the tribe Mohammad bin Turki's followers have left Saudi Arabia for Palestine.

367. The Haj will be very expensive this year. Cars will be available in very limited numbers and camels of good quality are expensive. A seat in a lorry for the round trip Kuwait-Mecca-Medinah-Kuwait will cost Rs.1,300 (lorries take twenty passengers), and a seat in a five seater car Rs.1,500. These fares do not include the pilgrims food or lodging during halts at Mecca and Medinah.
The price of camels has risen more than 100% since last winter when an animal in excellent condition could be purchased for Rs.120. Healthy well covered beasts are now fetching Rs.300 and Shaikh Subah an Naser as Subah recently sold two animals for Rs.700 the pair.

SMUGGLING.

368. Reference paragraph 344 of Kuwait Summary No.19.
It is reported that Shaikh Subah an Naser as Subah, an unbalanced but wealthy relative of His Highness, has been engaged in smuggling tea and sugar into Iraq.

EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 369. | 100 Maria Thereasa dollars | Rs.225 - 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.109 - 0 |
| | 1 Iraqi dinar | Rs. 12 -12 |
| | 1 £ (gold sovereign) | Rs. 60 -12. |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 370. | Maximum temperature | 90.0° |
| | Minimum temperature | 70.0° |
| | Humidity | 96.0% |

November 1, 1942.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 42 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 28.11 | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | P.Q. Committee | 28 | |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

SECRET

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT. 6079/42.

SUBJECT:

KOWAIT

Intelligence Summary No. 19. Oct.1st-15th.

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

| | |
|---|---|
| 325, 328 & 337. | Delay in ships entering Shatt al Arab. |
| 333 and 343 | Shipment of foodstuffs from Karachi to Kowait. |
| 336 | Smuggling, particularly of tea and sugar, at Dubai. |
| 338. | Purchase of rials by the Imperial Bank of Iran on an order from their Bagdad office. |
| 339 and 340. | Supplies for Saudi Arabia. |
| 341 and 342. | Shipment of equipment to Abadan by the Kuwait Oil Co. |
| 344 and 345 | Smuggling. |

paras 333, 336, 338-40 and 343.

Secretary, E.& O.Dept. for information.

Secretary

3 DEC 1942

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

Secretary, Financial Dept.
to see para. 338.



Thanks. [initials] 27.11

E. W. R. Lumby
24. xi.

SECRET

No.19 of 1942.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th October, 1942.

(Note:- The letter "P" in the margin denotes "Matter non-confidential and may be released for publication, if considered suitable).

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

325. Reference paragraphs Nos. 316 and 317 of Kuwait Summary No.18.

On the 20th the Political Agent left for Basrah en route for Bahrain to attend a supply conference. The journey to Basrah was completed after dark as a late start had to be made to allow the Political Agent to give as much time as possible to H.M.S. "Capetown". On arrival at the air port the Political Agent, was informed that the plane was twenty four hours delayed. He was awakened in the middle of the night to be told that the Consul-General had an important message for him which on being obtained at a suitable hour the next morning proved to be a postponment of the conference. The Political Agent hurried back to Kuwait to deal with matters in connection with H.M.S. "Capetown" and spent five hours on the way digging the car out of a sand patch.

On the 23rd Basrah was again visited and Bahrain safely achieved on the 24th at 7 a.m., on a fine autumn morning with a bright sun and humidity in the neighbourhood of 98%.

The conference was duly held on the 27th after preliminary conversations with the Political Agent, Bahrain, Major Griffin and Najeb Salha had done much to clear away possible misconceptions and reconcile conflicting opinions on minor points.

On the 28th the Political Agent left by the "Fast Mail" steamer "Barala" for Khorramshahr in preference to the "Slow Mail" steamer "Baroda" which had not then arrived and which was due to discharge at Bahrain and then call at Bushire before going to Kuwait. After much tribulation the Political Agent arrived at Kuwait in the Agency Launch from Khorramshahr on the 1st to find the "Baroda" had arrived that morning. The delay was due to the congestion at the "Outer Bar" of the Shatt al Arab where after a 24 hour delay the Political Agent transferred to the "Neuralia" which carried him to Khorramshahr where his launch was waiting.

326. Squadron Leader A. Mills visited Kuwait on the 15th and returned to Shaibah the same day.

327. Reference paragraph No.241 of Kuwait Summary No.14 of 1942.

Pilot Officer A. Storrs arrived here on the 15th to relieve Pilot Officer Heywood, Cypher Officer of the Royal Air Force.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

328. Reference paragraph No.209 of Kuwait Summary No.12.

Dr. L.R. Scudder of the American Evangelical Mission returned from India on the 8th. He had the misfortune to be in a "Fast Mail" B.I. Steamer which was detained at least seven days at the entrance to the Shatt al Arab, on the seventh day Dr. Scudder was transferred to another steamer.



KUWAIT/

- 2 -

KUWAIT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

329. Shaikh Abdullah Al Jabir As Subah, the Chief Judge and Director of Education, a son-in-law of His Highness, left for Baghdad on the 13th to consult a nerve Specialist. Shaikh Abdullah is a comparatively busy man and has little inclination to take exercise coupled with a liking for rich food. If he would take moderate exercise, eat plain food, and divorce three of his wives he would be a healthier man and there would be no need for him to consult nerve Specialists.

SAUDI ARABIA

330. The Amir Naif as Shaalan, Vice President of the Council of Ministers of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Kuwait on the 11th and left for Riyadh on the 12th.

LOCAL INTERESTS

331. Reference paragraph No.312 of Kuwait Summary No.17. It is rumoured in the town that Shaikh Hamood and Izzat Jaffar have returned to Palestine from Egypt and are proposing to visit Turkey. His Highness has apparently been examining the affairs of the municipality in his brother's absence and not found them altogether to his liking for he has "Frozen" the Municipal Funds lodged in the Imperial Bank and it is rumoured that Shaikh Hamood will be dismissed from his appointment of Head of the Municipality.

P. 332. On the 12th the Political Agent gave a dinner party to bid farewell to Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company at which His Highness was present.

P. 333. At the request of the Agency the Shaikh has issued instructions that Kuwait export merchants in Karachi should give preference to rice and other essential foodstuffs when allotted shipping space.

P. 334. On the 10th the last day of the Ramadhan, the usual troops of small boys carrying Kuwait flags appeared at the Agency and sang songs until a contribution was made to their Party Funds to induce them to go away.

335. The Idd was celebrated on the 11th and 12th and on each day the Political Agent paid calls on some twenty five of the leading citizens and Government Officials. On the first day the "Eastenders" call on the "Westenders" and on the second day the "Westenders" return the calls.
The Political Agent was received by the Shaikh in the Town Palace reception room at 3.30 p.m. and His Highness later received the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company and other leading British and American citizens. This reception room has a ceiling which is probably unique for it is composed entirely of large framed coloured prints of H.M. Queen Alexander, Princesses of the Court of King Edward VII, and stars of the musical comedy stage of the Edwardian era.
Later in the afternoon the Shaikh and the Political Agent attended the tribal dancing which is always held on festivals in the public square in front of the Directorate of Public Security.

336. At an interview with the Political Agent on the 3rd His Highness mentioned Dubai and said that he understood that it had become a centre of smuggling. He said that tea

was/

was shipped in large quantities to Dubai and re-shipped to Persia and Iraq. He hinted that sugar and other quota goods were also finding their way to Persia from there and asked how merchants obtained shipping space for goods for Dubai when Kuwait merchants were apparently unable to obtain sufficient space for quota goods. The Agency was unable to enlighten him. Rumours have been about that both the "Baroda" and the "Barala" discharged tea at Dubai and immediately after loaded tea for on carriage to Basrah. It is said that in one case the tea was discharged from one side of the ship and re-loaded on the other.

337. On the 29th of September there were eight ships at the Shatt al Arab "Outer Bar" waiting for pilots to go up the river among them were two "Slow Mail" steamers. On the 30th in the morning the ships waiting had increased to fourteen of which number four entered the river that morning. On the 1st October there were still at least ten ships waiting for entrance. It was said that these considerable delays to shipping were due to lack of berthing facilities at Abadan, Khorramshahr and Basrah. Kuwait is short of foodstuffs and the Gulf ports are dependent on the "Slow Mail" steamers to supply them.

338. The Imperial Bank of Iran have been purchasing rials on an order from their Baghdad office. On the 3rd 35,000 rials were paid to Abdul Rahman al Karawi holder of Saudi Arabian Passport No.3 issued by the Saudi Arabian Legation in Baghdad who is reported to have departed for Iraq immediately with the money. On the 3rd the Bank had a further 45,000 rials on hand waiting to be collected by some person unknown to them who would hold letters of introduction from their Baghdad office. In order to meet this buying demand rials have been imported, 10,000 at a time, from Riyadh.

What the eventual destination of the money is is not clear, some say it is hoarded, others that it is required to purchase gold from intending pilgrims before they reach Iraq, and yet others that the money is paid to border tribes.

339. On the 4th the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent called on the Political Agent and discussed supplies. The Political Agent told him that he could have immediately 250 tons tea, 130 tons rice, 30 tons flour over and above the current month's quota allotment ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ and such tea and piece goods as he could buy. He said he wished for over 1,000 cases of tea and was told that he could almost certainly buy it as there were over 6,000 cases in the town. He was informed that the cost must be paid here in rupees and not by draft on India. The price of Calcutta tea is Rs.94-12 a 50 lb case, and American i.e. cloth used by the bedouin for their clothing is Rs.675 a bale.

340. Reference paragraph No.325 of this Summary.

The Shaikh's Secretary was informed on the 5th that the Bahrain merchants had agreed to accept 5% on the c.i.f. price on all quota goods imported for re-export to Saudi Arabia. It was pointed out to him that the c.i.f. price would include all charges and that should Kuwait merchants refuse to accept this figure then the Saudi Arabian Government might press to have the Kuwait quota transferred to Bahrain and that this would mean a probable loss in Customs revenue alone of about Rs.9,000 a month. The Secretary consulted His Highness who agreed to the 5% c.i.f. profit; he had but little choice although in point of fact the terms of this 5% grant are wider than the normal terms and will be almost equivalent to the 10% now being allowed by the Kuwait Government to their own merchants on staple foodstuffs, that is quota goods.

341/

- 3 -

was shipped in large quantities to Dubai and re-shipped to Persia and Iraq. He hinted that sugar and other quota goods were also finding their way to Persia from there and asked how merchants obtained shipping space for goods for Dubai when Kuwait merchants were apparently unable to obtain sufficient space for quota goods. The Agency was unable to enlighten him. Rumours have been about that both the "Dareda" and the "Barala" discharged tea at Dubai and immediately after loaded tea for on carriage to Basrah. It is said that in one case the tea was discharged from one side of the ship and re-loaded on the other.

357. On the 29th of September there were eight ships at the Shatt al Arab "Outer Bar" waiting for pilots to go up the river among them were two "Ellerman Hall" steamers. On the 30th in the morning the ships waiting had increased to fourteen of which number four entered the river that morning. On the 1st October there were still at least ten ships waiting for entrance. It was said that these considerable delays to shipping were due to lack of berthing facilities at Abadan, Khorramshahr and Basrah. Kuwait is short of foodstuffs and the Gulf ports are dependent on the "Ellerman Hall" steamers to supply them.

358. The Imperial Bank of Iran have been purchasing rials on an order from their Baghdad office. On the 3rd 30,000 rials were paid to Abdul [illegible] al [illegible] holder of Saudi Arabian Passport [illegible] issued by the Saudi Arabian Legation in Baghdad who is reported to have departed for Iraq immediately with the money. On the 6th the Bank had a further 40,000 rials on hand waiting to be collected by some person unknown to them who would hold letters of introduction from their Baghdad office. In order to meet this buying demand rials have been [illegible] 10,200 at a time, then [illegible].

What the eventual destination of the money is is not clear, some say it is hoarding, others that it is required to purchase gold from intending pilgrims before they reach Iraq, and yet others that the money is paid to border tribes.

359. On the 6th the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent called on the Political Agent and discussed supplies. The Political Agent told him that he could have immediately 210 tons tea, 120 tons rice, 60 tons flour over and above the current month's quota allotment and sesamee and quota tea and piece goods as he could buy. He said he wanted for over 1,000 cases of tea and was told that he could almost certainly buy it as there were over 4,000 cases in the town. He was informed that the cash must be paid here in rupees and not by draft on India. The price of Calcutta tea is Rs.94-12 a 50 lb case, and americane i.e. cloth used by the Bedouin for their clothing, is Rs.670 a bale.

360. Reference paragraph No.320 of this Summary.

The Shaikh's Secretary was informed on the 9th that the Saudi Government had agreed to accept Rs.16 the c.i.f. price on all quota goods imported for re-export to Saudi Arabia. It was pointed out to him that the c.i.f. price would include all charges and that should Kuwait merchants refuse to accept this figure then the Saudi Arabian Government might seek to have the Kuwait quota transferred to Bahrain and that this would mean a probable loss in Customs revenue alone of about Rs.2,000 a month. The Secretary consulted his Highness who agreed to the 16% c.i.f. profit; he had but little choice although in point of fact the terms of this 16 per cent are wider than the current terms and will be almost equivalent to the 20% now being allowed by the Kuwait Government to their own merchants on whole foodstuffs, such as quota goods.

232 229

- 4 -

341. Reference paragraph No.322 of Kuwait Summary No.18. The Kuwait Oil Company have shipped nearly all their machinery and casing to Abadan. The Shaikh asked for the Political Agent's private advice regarding the operation of clause 7 of their agreement as he understood that they were selling this material to the A.I.O.C. The Political Agent examined the clause in question and explained to His Highness that it did not apply to material that was being removed from his territory and was not being sold to a concern or individual in his territory.

342. The Shaikh hoped that the Company would offer to sell some of their electrical equipment to him and some of their surplus cars, but they have shown no inclination to part with anything except a small quantity of iron girders and furniture at very conservative prices, their electrical equipment is being shipped to Abadan and their cars are being laid up. The Company have followed a very careful financial plan for some years which has not appealed to His Highness, nor to the American personnel, whose parent Company is the Eastern Gulf Company, who have complained bitterly of the lack of transport and other facilities and the failure of the management to anticipate automobile and other shortages and buy in time.

P 343. At the Agency's request His Highness has issued a general warning to the public against the overloading of ocean going sailing vessels. Also at the Agency's request he is taking steps to see that all dhows arriving at Karachi will be given cargoes, should grain be awaiting shipment, irrespective of whether they have agents at that port or not. This action is being taken to ensure that supplies reach Kuwait and are not left in Indian ports while the dhows take cargoes from Bombay to Aden and elsewhere.

SMUGGLING.

344. On the 1st October Shaikh Mohamed al Jabir as Subah, Port Director, received a report regarding the smuggling activities of one Ahmad bin Reioujeh, Nakhuda of a small vessel trading between Persia and Arabia. An examination of the cargo revealed smuggled piece goods valued at Rs.35,000 said to be the property of one of the leading citizens and a member of the anti Shaikh faction, Munsaad as Saleh Jenaai. The Nakhuda has been imprisoned.

345. During the period under report two further smuggling incidents are said to have occurred. The first was an attempt by an unknown Nakhuda to smuggle eight bags out of Kuwait which resulted in his being fined Rs.100 and the sugar being confiscated.

The second was an attempt by some Arabs from Jahra to smuggle sugar into Iraq. They were intercepted by the Iraq police and the sugar and camels were taken to Zubair and one of the smugglers killed.

MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT

346. Reference paragraph No.311 of Kuwait Summary No.17 of 1942.

Information was received on the 11th that the S.S. "James Smith" had turned up unexpectedly at the entrance to the Shatt al Arab and would be sent here to discharge fifty barges on the 12th. The Agents and Messrs. Foley Brothers Inc., and Spencer, White & Prentis Inc., were informed. The ship arrived on the 14th and commenced discharging.

347/

- 5 -

347. Following are control prices:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Rice Karachi | = | 27.8 - 28.4 |
| Rice Bawli | = | 28.8 - 29.4 |
| Flour No.2 | = | 27.8 - 28.4 |
| Sugar | | Rs.60 per 2 cwt bag. |

EXCHANGE RATES

348.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Theresa Dollars | = Rs. | 206- 8-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = " | 110-00-0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = " | 12-13-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | = " | 60-11-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL

349.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 102.0° |
| Minimum temperature | 72.9° |
| Humidity | 71.0% |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

October 16th, 1942.

(234) 231

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 | Initials. | External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ......Committee | 3/xi | | Ext 5774/42. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 5775/42. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: ~~Muscat~~ KOWEIT :- Intelligence Summaries Nos 17&18 (September 1942).



Paragraphs of interest in these Summaries are:-

308 Consignment of wheat and barley from Iraq.

309. Consignments of flour and rice from India – impossibility of storing flour for more than two months.

310. Use by merchants of double and forged invoices to defeat the price control.

322. Return to India of 18 Indian clerks and artizans formerly employed by the Koweit Oil Company.

M. Odgers. 28/10

E. and O. Secretary to see paras. 309 and 310. For Information. E.W.R. Lumby 30.x.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

232 (235)

EXT 5775 1942

(5)

5085 / 5774

INDEXED

No. 18 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th September, 1942.

28 OCT 1942

FO / DM / ... / ... / Main O

BRITISH OFFICIALS

5774

315. Reference paragraph 303 of Kuwait Summary No. 17. Lieutenant R.A. Miall, R.N.R., returned from Basra on the 19th.

316. The Political Agent left for Basra on the 20th and returned on the 21st.

317. The Political Agent left for Bahrain via Basra on the 23rd.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

318. Mr. N. Gass, M.C., a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, arrived on the 16th by Company's plane and returned on the 17th.

319. Colonel Flake of the American Mission with two officers arrived on the 26th and left on the 27th.

320. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., and Mr. R.L. Kuss of the Kuwait Oil Company, left for Abadan on the 27th by Company's plane and returned on the 29th.

ROYAL NAVY

321. H.M.S. "Capetown" arrived on the 19th and left on the 27th. Calls were exchanged between His Highness and the Captain of the ship.

In the absence of the Political Agent on tour in Bahrain, Lieut-Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., of the Kuwait Oil Company took the Captain of the "Capetown" to pay a farewell call on His Highness on the 26th. The Captain presented His Highness with a copper gong which had been specially made for him by the ship's company.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

4960

322. Reference paragraph 273 of Kuwait Summary No. 15. About eighteen Indian clerks and artizans have left for India during the period under review and the others are expected to leave next month.

EXCHANGE RATES

| 323. | 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars | Rs. 200 - 0 |
|---|---|---|
| | 100 Saudi Rials | Rs. 106 - 4 |
| | 1 Iraqi Dinar | Rs. 12 -11 |
| | 1 £ (gold sovereign) | Rs. 61 - 0. |

METEOROLOGICAL

| 324. | Maximum temperature | 110.0° |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature | 71.9° |
| | Humidity | 96% |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

No.17 of 1942.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period
from 1st to 15th September,1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS

301. The Political Agent visited Jahra on the 2nd and discussed tribal and general subjects with some of the Bedouin assembled there.

302. The Political Agent visited Failacha Island on the 8th to inspect the R.A.F. Wireless Post and took the opportunity to call on Shaikh Abdullah as Salim as Subah C.I.E., who was then in residence on the island. Shaikh Abdullah was looking well and during the course of conversation asked the Political Agent to explain how wireless waves travelled and what was meant by Kilocycles. A skilled R.A.F. mechanic who had accompanied the Political Agent from Kuwait was able to provide an answer.

303. Lieutenant R.A. Miall, R.N.R., a Naval Officer in Kuwait went to Basrah on the 5th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

304. Mr. Sells of Messrs. Foley Bros. Inc., and Spencer, White and Prentice Inc., arrived at the Agency on the 3rd and left on the 4th. He inspected the work of barge construction at Shuwaikh and various labour problems were dealt with.

LOCAL INTERESTS

305. The Political Agent dined with His Highness on the 4th and was the senior guest at a dinner party given by Shaikh Mohammad al Jabir as Subah on the 7th. This Shaikh is the Port Director and has recently been active in the suppression of smuggling.

306. The Political Agent gave the last of his Arab dinner parties before the Ramadhan on the 5th. It is hoped to resume these parties after the 'Id. To this particular party were invited certain senior members of the civil community whose allegiance to His Highness is not as staunch as could be desired. The party was successful and during the course of the evening, all the guests gave vent to expressions of loyalty.

307. His Highness the Shaikh accompanied by Dr. Nykerk of the American Missionary Hospital left for Failacha Island on the 1st. The party travelled in the new quarantine launch, a vessel scarcely more than two thirds of the size of His Highness' personal launch. On their return on the 3rd they encountered very bad weather. His Highness is a man of courage and a good sailor but he confessed that he was concerned for the safety of the craft as they had several non-swimmers on board.

308. Reference paragraph 291 of Kuwait Summary No.16.

A further 1644 bags of wheat and 867 bags of barley were received from Iraq by the I.W.T. vessel "Resang" on the 10th. These consignments have been taken over by the Finance Department.

309. Reference paragraph 292 of Kuwait Summary No.16.

Consignments of flour and rice have arrived from India during the period under review. The former is particularly welcome as the consumption is above normal during the Ramadhan

fast/

fast. Wheat would have been more welcome than flour as it can be kept for a much longer period of time. It is impossible to store flour for more than two months as it rapidly deteriorates and becomes weavily and bitter to taste, so the Kuwait Government are not attempting to maintain a reserve of this commodity and the consignments went in to the market. Prices rose to more than Rs.40/- a bag but on pressure being applied by the Agency fell to Rs.23/-.

310. Intercepts received from Censorship Authorities in India and Iraq show that double and forged invoices are to be used, and in fact are being used, to defeat price control authorities. Fahad Al Marzook a Kuwaiti export merchant in Karachi who has been interested in tea and silk smuggling in his time wrote to Haji Abdur Rahman bin Bahr the principal import merchant here announcing his intention to use double invoices and the letter was intercepted. The matter was brought to His Highness' notice who asked the Government of India to transfer Fahad's export quota for rice, wheat and flour to his brother Mohammad Al Marzook, a man of very different stamp. Prompt, rigorous, and even drastic action by the Shaikh and the Kuwait Government are the only means by which the perfidious machinations of the merchants can be defeated.

MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT

5086

311. Reference paragraph No.294 of Kuwait Summary No.16.

The barge building has continued smoothly owing to the arrival of two consignments of ten barges each which should be sufficient to keep the men employed at the Ramadhan half a day working rate until larger consignments arrive early next month.

312. Reference paragraph No.287 of Kuwait Summary No.16.

It is understood that Izzat Jaffar and Shaikh Hamood al Jabir His Highness' brother have arrived in Egypt.

EXCHANGE RATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 313. | 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars | Rs.200-00-0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | " 107- 8-0 |
| | 1 Iraqi Dinar | " 12-10-6 |
| | 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | " 59- 4-0 |

METEOROLOGICAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 314. | Maximum temperature | 112.0° |
| | Minimum temperature | 77.0° |
| | Humidity | 81.0% |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Secret

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 42 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | P.A. Committee | 2.10 | AM |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

235 P.A. (238) M.O. 14/10.

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext.5085/42.

30 (2) / 45

SUBJECT: KOWEIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY No.16. (August 16th to 31st)



Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

Paras.~~287~~ 280 and ~~288~~. Visit of the Political Agent to Shuwaikh in connection with some trouble between the American Mission and their local contractors.

Paras 287 & 288. Departure of Izzat Jaffar for Damascus and Syria and reported appointment of his elder brother as Headmaster of one of the Koweit Boys' Schools.

Para.289. Shaikh Fahad-as-Salim.

Para.290. A check of grain stocks followed by a search of warehouses disclosed stocks of hoarded rice.

Para.291. 2,303 bags of wheat and 800 bags of barley had been received from Iraq.

Para.292. Smuggling of wheat from Persia.

Para.294. Assembly of Barges at Koweit.

Para.296. Increase of Bitumen output from

400/

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

400 to 1,000 tons a month.

Para.298. Postponement of appeals in the Date Gardens cases.

M. Odgers.
24/9.

For Information. [illegible] 29/9

Secretary, E. and O. Dept.
to see paras. 290-2.
I do not think we have heard before of Koweit - in addition to Iraq and Turkey - as a destination for smuggled wheat from Persia. But no doubt the quantities involved were small.

E.W.R. Lumby.
26.ix.

2.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st August, 1942.





P23/9 — 4960 — 4461.

(239) 236

BRITISH OFFICIALS

280. The Political Agent visited Shuwaikh on the 19th in connection with transport trouble between the American Mission and their local contractors.
On the same day he proceeded to Falaicha Island to meet His Highness and to discuss the question of food supplies to Saudi Arabia. The Political Agent returned the same evening.

281. Colonel Murray Hudson, R.A., Abadan arrived on the 23rd by the Anglo Iranian Oil Company's plane and returned the same day.

282. The Political Agent went to Basrah on the 26th and came back in the afternoon of the 27th. The object of the visit was to see the General Manager of Gray Mackenzie, Basrah in connection with re-exports from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia, and to see His Highness' lawyer in Basrah regarding the "Date Gardens" case.

283. Mr. Sambrook of the Air Ministry and Major Linzell, R.E., arrived by the Anglo Iranian Oil Company's plane on the 30th and returned the same day to Abadan.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

284. Mr. Sharp, Dental Surgeon, Anglo Iranian Oil Company, Abadan arrived by Company's plane on the 30th to attend His Highness

285. Lt. Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., returned from leave on the 18th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

286. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Shaikh Mubarak al Hamad, Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, and Dr. J.H. Nykark proceeded to Falaicha Island on the 17th and returned on the 19th.

287. Reference paragraph 105 of Intelligence Summary No.13 of 1941.
Izzat Jaffar A.D.C. to His Highness left for Damascus and Syria on the 28th. His Departure was most unexpected and has given rise to considerable comment, some quarters hinting at private financial commissions for the Shaikh and some at a natural desire to escape the rigours of the Ramazan. Officially he has left as guide, philosopher and friend to Shaikh Hamood Al Jabir, His Highness' brother who has been given a month's leave from his appointment of Rais Baladiyah and who has not travelled abroad before. Security organisations have been warned of Izzat Jaffar's movements.

288. Mustafa Jaffar the elder brother of Izzat Jaffar is reported to have been offered and accepted the headmastership of one of the Kuwait Boys Schools. The appointment has not been confirmed. Nothing is known here about this individual who is at present resident in Damascus.

289. Reference paragraph 255 of Intelligence Summary No.14 of 1942.
Shaikh Fahad As Salim returned from Bahrain on the 22nd. He appears well pleased with his visit and was the bearer of two letters from His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Hamad to His Highness which appear to have given the latter much satisfaction. Shaikh Fahad as Salim is the son of the late Shaikh Salim bin Mubarak, His Highness' immediate predecessor in the Amirate, by a slave woman.



He/

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st August, 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS

280. The Political Agent visited Shuwaikh on the 19th in connection with transport trouble between the American Mission and their local contractors.
On the same day he proceeded to Falaicha Island to meet His Highness and to discuss the question of food supplies to Saudi Arabia. The Political Agent returned the same evening.

281. Colonel Murray Hudson, R.A., Abadan arrived on the 23rd by the Anglo Iranian Oil Company's plane and returned the same day.

282. The Political Agent went to Basrah on the 26th and came back in the afternoon of the 27th. The object of the visit was to see the General Manager of Grey Mackenzie, Basrah in connection with re-exports from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia, and to see His Highness' Lawyer in Basrah regarding the "Date Gardens" case.

283. Mr. Sambrook of the Air Ministry and Major Minzell, R.E., arrived by the Anglo Iranian Oil Company's plane on the 30th and returned the same day to Abadan.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

284. Mr. Sharp, Dental Surgeon, Anglo Iranian Oil Company, Abadan arrived by Company's plane on the 30th to attend His Highness

285. Lt. Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., returned from leave on the 18th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

286. His Highness the Ruler accompanied by Shaikh Mubarak al Hamad, Shaikh Abdullah al Jabir, and Dr. J.H. Nykerk proceeded to Falaicha Island on the 17th and returned on the 19th.

287. Reference paragraph 105 of Intelligence Summary No.13 of 1941.
Izzat Jaffar A.D.C. to His Highness left for Damascus and Syria on the 25th. His Departure was most unexpected and has given rise to considerable comment, some quarters hinting at private financial commissions for the Shaikh and some at a natural desire to escape the rigours of the Ramazan. Officially he has left as guide, philosopher and friend to Shaikh Hamood Al Jabir, His Highness' brother who has been given a month's leave from his appointment of Rais Baladiyah and who has not travelled abroad before. Security organisations have been warned of Izzat Jaffar's movements.

288. Mustafa Jaffar the elder brother of Izzat Jaffar is reported to have been offered and accepted the headmastership of one of the Kuwait Boys Schools. The appointment has not been confirmed. Nothing is known here about this individual who is at present resident in Damascus.

289. Reference paragraph 255 of Intelligence Summary No.14 of 1942.
Shaikh Fahad As Salim returned from Bahrain on the 22nd. He appears well pleased with his visit and was the bearer of two letters from His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Hamad to His Highness which appear to have given the latter much satisfaction. Shaikh Fahad as Salim is the son of the late Shaikh Salim bin Mubarak, His Highness' immediate predecessor in the Amirate, by a slave woman.

He/

He is very unpopular with His Highness and with the general public who object to his dictorial ways and complete lack of manners. Politically he favours the cause of his eldest brother Shaikh Abdullah as Salim who has been regarded for some time semi-officially in Subah circles as the heir presumptive and who is the leader of the anti-British and anti-Shaikh party.

290. The Public Security Department under its energetic Director Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak have been active in dealing with hoarders of grain. On the 17th August reports were received by the Director of Public Security that the merchants were refusing to sell rice at the control price on the grounds that they have exhausted their stocks. A check of grain stocks in the town had recently been made at the request of the Agency and the figures showed that in addition to the 24,000 bags of rice under Kuwait Government control held by merchants there should still be ample for all classes of the population so that it seemed that hoarding must be taking place. Telephonic instructions were obtained by Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak from His Highness in consequence of which all merchants were ordered to produce their books and the keys of their warehouses and while Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak personally searched the warehouses his clerk examined the accounts. The result of the checking and searching disclosed that several merchants were hoarding rice which they hoped to sell later when supplies were depleted at a handsome profit. Action is being taken against them though what the nature of the action will be is difficult to say as it is understood that the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent had in his possession for private trade some two thousand bags of rice which he had found it convenient not to report. A considerable quantity of rice was taken over by Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak and is being sold by him to the public at the control rates which are as follows:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Dawood Khan ............. | Rs.30/- | per bag. |
| Hoora .................... | Rs.29/- | per bag. |
| Zira Rangoon ............ | Rs.28/- | -do- |
| Rangoon -r............... | Rs.26/- | -do- |
| Karachi ................. | Rs. 25/- | -do- |
| Bawli .................... | Rs.25/- | -do- |

This action resulted in a complete check of supplies of rice in the town and it unfortunately disclosed that the earlier figures given to the Agency were unduly optimistic.

291. Reference paragraph 272 of Intelligence Summary No.15 of 1942.

4960

2303 bags of wheat and 800 bags of barley were received from Iraq by the Inland Water Transport vessel "Resang" on the 31st August. The consignments have been taken over by the Finance Department and the bakers will be issued with fixed quotas of wheat and barley with instructions to bake bread in the proportion of two parts of wheat flour to one part barley flour.

292. Reference paragraph 272 of Intelligence Summary No.15 of 1942.

Although the town was in theory without wheat and flour for 17 days in practice reasonable quantities of barley-wheat bread have been on sale. It is probable that wheat has been obtained daily from Iran being brought over by Iranian smugglers who received payment in piece goods which they presumably smuggled into Iran. Now that wheat supplies have arrived the Agency has suggested to His Highness that this traffic should be discouraged.

293. It is understood that the difference of opinion between the Dahamsha and Shaikh Mahruth (Ibn Hadhal) over the possession of the wells south west of Samawa have been composed and that those elements of the tribe who had departed with their flocks and their herds to the wells and grazing near Safa have now returned or are on their way back to Iraq. Shaikh Jazza bin Mijlal

vi

-3-

visited Kuwait recently and is now said to be at Safa where he is awaiting transport for the substantial gifts that he has received from Ibn Saud.

MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT.

294. Reference paragraph No.277 of Intelligence Summary No.15 of 1942.

The Contractor Haji Ahmed bin Salman increased the number of barges under construction at one time from ten to eighteen after much protesting that he would have completed the number in Kuwait awaiting assembly before any more could arrive from overseas. The American Mission were insistent that this would not occur and the Higgins Company Manager here shared their view.

The American Mission representative here has now been informed that owing to two ships being sunk it will probably be mid-October before any more barges arrive and the Contractor will therefore have to start standing off men from the middle of this month.

It is hoped that it will not be necessary to pay any retaining fees to the 150 shipwrights being employed as they will be able to get casual work refitting the deep-water vessels who are due to start from here on their annual cruise next month. Every endeavour will be made to obtain the services of the men again when new shipments of barges arrive.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

295. Reference paragraph No.294 of this Summary.

Three Officers of the Inland Water Transport from Basrah visited Kuwait on September 1st with a view to gathering information regarding construction details. It is understood that two of them will be employed supervising work on the Nile where it is proposed to reconstruct a hundred barges.

MILITARY.

296. Reference paragraph 265 of Intelligence Summary No.15 of 1942.

The bitumen output is being increased from 400 tons a month to 1,000 tons at the request of the Army Authorities.

297. Reference paragraph 257 of Intelligence Summary No.14 of 1942.

Another training drive was carried out on the 22nd.

DATE GARDENS CASE

298. Reference paragraph 256 of Intelligence Summary No.14 of 1942.

The hearing of the appeals in the Bashiya and the Faddagiyah cases has again been postponed till after the Ramazan.

EXCHANGE RATES

299.

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars | Rs.185 - 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | Rs.107 - 0 |
| 1 Iraq Dinar | Rs. 12 -11 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | Rs. 61 - 0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

300.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 113.0 |
| Minimum temperature | 74.0 |
| Humidity | 79% |

Kuwait,
September 2nd, 1942.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

239
(242)

SECRET

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 23.9 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 24.ix | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext.4960/42

SUBJECT:

Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 15
August 1st to 15th

Paragraphs of interest in this summary are:-

265. Signature of a contract between the Military authorities and the Kuwait Oil Company for 10,000 tons of bitumen.

266 and 268. Smuggling.

269. Reserve of 24,000 bags of rice ordered.

271. Water shortage.

272. Scarcity of flour, wheat and barley.

273. Closing down of the Kuwait Oil Company.

M. Odgers.

For information.

E. and O. Secretary to see paras. 269 and 272. With regard

(20418) Wt.42601/P.281 3,000 1/42 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

regard to the difficulty in obtaining export permits reported in para. 272, similar reports from Bahrein attributed the difficulty to the venality of minor officials at Karachi.

E.W.R. Lumby.
19. ix. 42.

SECRET

No.15 of 1942

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1ST TO 15TH AUGUST, 1942



BRITISH OFFICIALS

261. Reference paragraph 238 of Intelligence Summary No.14.

Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent returned from Palestine in the forenoon of the 6th. Reports have been received that certain British Army Officers had stated in Khorramshahr and Abadan that the Political Agent did not go to Palestine but shrouded in a false beard returned to Kuwait by night to make secret political investigations.

Some people have a romantic outlook.

262. Mr. R.I. Hallows, Under Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf left for Abadan en route to Bahrain in the afternoon of the 6th.

The Political Agent visited Ras al Ardh on the 13th and Jahrah on the 15th, at this latter place he saw between two and three hundred bedouin tents.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

263. Mr. N.A. Gass, M.C., a Director of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company, accompanied by various officials of the Company, arrived on the 5th by Company's plane and returned on the 6th.

264. Shaikh Abdullah Salim left for Falaicha on the 6th.

265. ARMY.

Reference paragraph 243 of Intelligence Summary No.14.

The Bitumen Contract for 10,000 tons was signed by the Military Authorities and the Kuwait Oil Company at the Agency on the 7th. The Kuwait Oil Company have undertaken to deliver a minimum of 400 tons per month to the Military Authorities. The bitumen will be transported from Burgan thirty miles south of Kuwait to the Company's landing pier at Shuwaikh by Army transport lorries and from there by native craft to Basrah. Messrs. Ahmed Al Ghanim and Sons have contracted to deliver the bitumen at Basrah for Rs.7/- a ton.

LOCAL INTERESTS

266. On the 11th, three smugglers were caught by the police and the Naif Fort Garrison attempting to smuggle various prohibited commodities out of the town by passing them through a culvert in the city wall. The smugglers were flogged and imprisoned on the 12th by order of the Governor of the town.

267. On the 6th, Shaikh Jabir third son of His Highness was married to the daughter of Shaikh Hamad al Mubarak as Subah His Highness' Uncle. Seven days celebrations in the public form of dinner parties and tribal dancing in the public square followed.



268. On the 11th His Highness had delivered to him while in evening council two baskets addressed to him by tie-on labels. They had been brought from Zubair by the

Kuwait/

241
(244)

- 2 -

Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company's car. The baskets were opened and were found to contain water melons and plums. The basket of plums had concealed among the fruit eight bottles which His Highness presumed contained distilled water for his cars though the method of packing them struck him as wierd. The bottles were found to contain brandy and country liquor.

So is the spelling!

Subsequent enquiries revealed that the baskets had been intended for [illegible] and were alleged to have been wrongly addressed by an Iraqi official in Zubair. His Highness thinks that it is probable that his name has been used fairly frequently to cover packages containing spirits through the Kuwait Customs and has now ordered that all packages addressed to him will be taken over by the Customs post at the [illegible] Gate and sent direct to him.

x ? Safwan
x ? Naif Gate

269. By order of the Kuwait Government 24,000 bags of rice have been set aside in merchants' go-downs as a reserve and may not be sold without the prior permission of His Highness.

270. Reference paragraph 256 of Intelligence Summary No.14.

The Date Garden Case appeals were heard on the 8th of August but so far no information has been received of the result of the hearing.

271. Reference paragraph 217 of Intelligence Summary No.12.

There has been another shortage of water, partly due to inadequate transport facilities and partly to incompetence on the part of the Company Directorate who being persons of consequence with private water tanks are little interested in the trials of the poor. The Agency has drawn His Highness' attention to the lamentable state of affairs and it is understood that the Directors held an emergency meeting and have decided (a) to restrict all sales to persons owning private supplies in the form of well filled cisterns, (b) to make use of available motor launches to tow water boats in calm weather, and (c) to borrow Rs.60,000/- from the Kuwait Government to build five new vessels ready for next year.

272. A serious flour, wheat, and barley shortage has occurred, in fact there are practically no supplies of flour or wheat or barley and the population are living on dates and rice. Endeavours are being made to arrange to exchange 1,000 cases of tea for wheat and barley from Iraq.

The shortage is partly due to a wrangle in May and June between the local Supply Control Committee and the leading importers regarding the amount of percentage the Committee would allow individual importers on whole-sale invoice prices of consignments imported by them and in accordance with the existing law made over to the Committee for division and rationing. The result was that no one placed any orders at all and (as) not unnaturally no supplies arrived from India. As a result of pressure by the Agency the Kuwait Government has placed orders for the full amount of the quotas for July and August through the usual Agents in India in proportion to their normal trade. These Agents all complained that they had been unable to obtain export permits from India for supplies ordered in June or for the quotas for July and August. Thus a vessel that left Karachi at the beginning of this month carries no rice, wheat, flour, or barley for Kuwait. Information was received on the (16th) from one export Agent that he had just received export permits so it is to be hoped/

242
245



? hoped that the others have also done so though a telegram sent late on the (16th) from Calcutta from an exporter complains of failure to obtain export permits for the rice quota for July and August.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

273. Reference paragraph 233 of Intelligence Summary No.13.

The work of closing down the Kuwait Oil Company is progressing slowly but surely and the European personnel are leaving for Abadan and local labour is being discharged weekly. Although much regret is felt at the Company's cessation of work there is a general feeling that the closure was inevitable and there being ample work for those being discharged there will be no actual want as a result of the Company's suspension of operations.

Political Events in the Far and Middle East have been of such a momentous nature of recent months that the action of the Kuwait Oil Company has caused no particular reaction politically.

x ? Hamza bin Mohamad Bushiri

274. Recently it was reported that a dhow captained by Hamza bin Mohamad Bushiri[x] chartered by a Kuwait merchant left Dubai for Bushire with 200 bags of sugar, near Kalat on the Persian Coast he was intercepted by a dhow manned by fifty armed men. As he was a Persian they allowed him to pass but warned him that there were four more boats with armed men on the look out for Arab Dhows.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

? water
x ? 13th ? 15th

275. A Hudson aircraft forced landed on the 10th. The crew and one passenger were sent to the Royal Air Force Unit stationed here but they were unable to offer them suitable accommodation so the passenger, an officer, was lodged at the Agency and the Political Agent found accommodation for the crew and arranged for their food and [water]! An Engineer Officer arrived on the 12th and was also lodged at the Agency. The plane left on the 12th and the officers on the 13th! The provision of proper accommodation for Air Force Personnel at Kuwait and for refueling arrangements is essential.

Americans ?

276. Reference paragraph 254 of Intelligence Summary No.14.

The A.C. Unit has become acclimatised. The Political Agent has visited two of the posts and found the men very cheerful and heard no complaints although conditions are undoubtedly extremely trying.

x ? MINISTRY OF WAR TRANSPORT

[illegible][x]

277. Reference paragraph 255 of Intelligence Summary No.14.

Barges are now being launched daily, and the Contractors hope that twenty more broken down barges will be delivered almost immediately and that seventy more will arrive in September. The head shipwright is not so sanguine. He has contracted to assemble 67 in four months working on ten vessels at a time and expects to finish well within the time limit therefore he views with little favour the contractors request that he should work on an additional fourteen vessels at a time for this involves extra and in his view unnecessary expense on building ? platforms and will only result in his finishing his work well before additional barges can arrive leaving him with no work for his carpenters and coolies. The situation is

complicated/

243

246

- 4 -

x? Karachi

complicated by his receiving an enquiry for 100 barges for an Indian merchant in Karachi and the difficulties the contractors are having in transporting his men to and from work. The transport is inadequate and work is delayed with consequent loss to the head shipwright who is paid so much per completed barge irrespective of the time taken. Measures are being taken to increase the transport and to find a solution to the problem of workless periods occurring between delivery of consignments of broken down barges.

278. EXCHANGE RATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Theresa dollars | - Rs. | 180-00-0 ? |
| 100 Saudi Rials | - " | 111-00-0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | - " | 12-11-0 |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | - " | 61- 6-0 |

279. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 112.0° |
| Minimum temperature | 84.0° |
| Humidity | 88.0% |

The climate has been unusually trying with high temperatures and a high humidity percentage.

(Sd.) T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

August 19, 1942.

SECRET

244
(247)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | P.C. Committee | 31.8 | RM | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | Ext 4461/42. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: Koweit:- Intelligence Summary No 14. (July 16th - 31st).

SEEN POLITICAL COMMITTEE 15 SEP 1942

Summary for first fortnight in July has not yet been received. Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

251. Improvement in the Sheikh's health.

239, 241, 254. Establishment of part of an R.A.F. Wireless Observation Unit at Koweit; guards provided by the Sheikh.

256. Date Gardens. - hearing of appeals in Bashiya and Faddagiyah cases postponed to 8th August.

M. Rodgers. 29/8

For Information. E.W.R. Lumby 31. viii.

[Marginal initials: 15/9; 10/9; 8/9/42; 8/9]

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

SECRET No. 14 of 1942.

4011. 4346 Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st July 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS

236. Reference paragraph No. 223 of Kuwait Summary No. 13.

On the morning of the 16th calls were exchanged between the Hon'ble the Political Resident and His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait and in the evening His Highness gave a dinner party for the Resident. His Highness visited the Political Resident and the Political Agent at the Agency on the evening of the 17th.
The Political Resident left for Basra on the morning of the 18th

237. Lieutenant V. Russell, R.N.R., arrived from Khorramshahr on the 16th and returned on the 22nd.

238. Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., Political Agent, Kuwait proceeded on short recess to Palestine on the 18th. Mr. R.I. Hallows, Under Secretary to the Political Resident is remaining at Kuwait during his absence.

239. Squadron Leader J.H. Mackinder and Flight-Lieutenant B.M. Castle of the Royal Air Force, Shaiban visited Kuwait on the 20th.

240. Lieutenant R.A. Miall, R.N.R., proceeded to Khorramshahr on the 22nd and returned on the 28th.

241. Flight-Lieutenant Wright, Signals Officer, Shaibah and Pilot Officer Heywood who has been posted here as Cypher Officer arrived from Shaibah on the 23rd.

242. Major A. Crosthwaite of the 10th Army, Bagdad arrived on the 24th for discussions with the Political Agent and Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company.

243. Captain Holmans, R.E., and Captain Lumley, R.E., of the Chief Engineer's Office, Basra arrived on the 28th and returned on the following day. The object of the visit was to make final arrangements for the purchase and transport of Bitumen from Kuwait.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

244. Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., flew by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company plane to Abadan to discuss certain matters connected with the future programme of the Kuwait Oil Company with Mr. N.A. Gass, M.C., a Director of the Company. He returned by air on the 18th.

245. Mr. and Mrs. G. DeJong of the American Mission, Kuwait proceeded to India via Basra on the 17th.

246. Reference paragraph 228 of Kuwait Summary No. 13.

Mr. G.H. Keast of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Tehran arrived here on the 19th and relieved Mr. G. Miller who returned to Resht on the 24th.



247. Reference paragraph 214 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

On the 23rd Mr. E.H. Matheson was taken to Abadan by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company aeroplane for medical treatment.

246
(249)

2.

LOCAL INTERESTS

248. His Highness the Ruler issued an Order on the 16th prohibiting the import of gold from Bahrain to Kuwait.

249. His Highness has sanctioned a general increase of Rs. 10-0-0 in the salaries of menial and low paid Ministerial establishments of the Kuwait Government to meet the increased cost of living.

250. On the 16th the Imperial Bank of Iran, Kuwait sent a registered parcel containing Iraq currency notes to the value of I.D. 525/- to the Imperial Bank of Iran, Basra. The mail cover containing the parcel was delivered by the Kuwait-Zubair Transport Company to the Iraqi Post Office at Zubair and a clear receipt obtained. The Post-master, Basra has now reported that the parcel is missing. The matter is, it is believed, being investigated by the Iraqi authorities but as a result of this incident the Iraqi authorities refused to exchange registered mails for about a week. The matter was referred to His Majesty's Ambassador in Bagdad and registered letters are now being accepted.

251. The improvement in the health of His Highness has been maintained and during the fortnight he has been more active than for some time. Besides paying visits to the Royal Air Force Camp and to the Americans engaged in the barge construction work he dined out on several occasions and on the 30th gave a cinema performance to which the Political Agent and other European residents were invited.

252. Reference paragraph 229 of Kuwait Summary No. 13.

One Abdul Latif bin Saad Shamlan "Manager" of the Kuwait Schools is now being sent to Syria and Palestine to recruit masters and mistresses to take the place of those who have resigned.

253. The construction of Barges at Kuwait for the I.W.T. Iraq has now begun in earnest and ten are nearing completion. It is expected that these Barges will be produced at a minimum rate of 20 per month.

254. On the 22nd half of No. 38 Wireless Observation Unit, Royal Air Force consisting of one officer and 90 airmen arrived at Shuwaikh where they pitched their Headquarters Camp. Kuwait met with general approval amongst the men who found it much cooler than Shaibah but enthusiasm waned considerably when sections were sent out to their various observation posts in the desert. On Saturday the 25th Mr. Hallows took the Commanding Officer, Pilot Officer Newall, the Medical Officer Flying Officer Flynn, and the Cypher Officer to call on His Highness the Ruler. His Highness welcomed the unit to Kuwait and offered the Commanding Officer every assistance including the use of his house on Failacha Island should he require it.

There have already been four cases of heat exhaustion and one of heat stroke amongst the men and it has been suggested to the Commanding Officer that he should establish his Headquarters Camp at Shaikh Khazal's Palace at Kuwait which is rented but not at present used by the Army.

His Highness the Ruler has provided Guards for each post.

3.

255. Shaikh Fahad As-Salim, brother of Shaikh Abdulla As Salim the heir apparant, left Kuwait by car on the 22nd July to visit the Ruler of Bahrain.

256. DATE GARDENS

Reference paragraph 216 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

The hearing of the appeals in the Bashiya and the Faddagiyah cases has been postponed until the 8th of August for the production of "Documents of Guardianship" required to establish authority of guardians mentioned in Shaikh's Power of Attorney to act on behalf of minors.
Documents are being prepared by Sulaiman Faidhi, His Highness' lawyer in Bagdad.

257. MILITARY

Reference paragraph 230 of Kuwait Summary No. 13.

Another training drive was carried out on the 25th.

258. PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND

A sum of Rupees 32,478-15-0 subscribed by the British, Indians and Kuwaitis has been remitted to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

259. EXCHANGE RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Theresa Dollars | = Rs. 180-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs. 114-0-0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs. 12-15- |
| 1 £ (Gold Sovereign) | = Rs. 62-8-0 |

260. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 118.0° |
| Minimum temperature | 83.0° |
| Humidity | 92.0% |

(Sd) R. I. HALLOWS,

for Political Agent, Kuwait.

AUGUST 2, 1942.

Secret

248
251

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol. Committee | 18.9 | [illegible] | Ext 4742/42. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |



SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summary No 13.
(July 1st - 15th).

Intelligence Summaries Nos 14 & 15, covering the period 15th July to 15th August have already been submitted. Paragraphs of interest in this Summary are:-

224. Twelve dhows hired from Koweit for "special work" with the R.A.F to remain at Koweit for the present, rather than Bahrein. Land posts to be established from Failacha Island to the Batin, apparently for wireless observation+ (see para 254 of Summary 14 below).

229. Reduction of pay of Palestinian school

[Margin notes:] 22/9; 22 IX.; 22/9; 23/9

+ This is by no means certain.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

teachers, and proposal to recruit Egyptian teachers to replace those who have resigned.

233. Kuwait Oil Company ordered, from London, to suspend drilling operations for the duration of the war.

M. Odgers.

For information.

E.W.R. Lumby.
18. ix.

SECRET

No. 13 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th July 1942.

----------

BRITISH OFFICIALS

222. Major C.A.G. Savidge, M.B.E., Public Relations Officer, Basra arrived from Basra on the 3rd and left on the 5th. A cinema performance was given in the public square on the 3rd to an audience of about six thousand.

223. The Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel W.R. Hay, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf accompanied by Mr. R.I. Hallows, Under Secretary, arrived by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane on the 15th.

224. Reference paragraph 203 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

On the 13th Squadron Leader Harris and two officers arrived and said that it was now proposed to keep the dhows here for the time being pending a decision regarding their future and to establish immediately a row of land posts from Failacha Island to the Batin with headquarters at Kuwait. On the 14th I obtained His Highness' consent and on the 15th the officers reappeared and further discussions were held on medical and administrative problems. It is understood that the advance party will arrive on the 20th and that the total strength of the force will be about one hundred and fifty men.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

225. Major P.D. Troxler of the U.S.A. Army with three members of the American Mission arrived by air from Abadan on the 6th and returned the same day.

226. Colonel Leiber and Major Troxler of the American Mission visited Kuwait on the 13th.

227. Mr. Dobbs and Mr. Beattie of the B.O.A.C. Basra arrived from Basra on the 6th. The B.O.A.C. are laying a third mooring buoy at Shuwaikh permission having been obtained from His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait. Mr. Dobbs returned on the 7th leaving Mr. Beattie here.

228. Reference paragraph 214 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

Mr. G. Miller, the new Manager, Imperial Bank of Iran, arrived from Resht on the 8th.

LOCAL INTERESTS

229. The Educational authorities of the Kuwait Government have recently reduced the pay of their Palestinian masters and mistresses. Six of them have resigned and are returning to Palestine. It is rumoured in the town that this has been done by His Highness under pressure from the Political Agent who is in sympathy with the Palestinian Jews. In fact the Education Committee are entirely responsible and it was the Political Agent who drew His Highness' attention to what had been done. His Highness now states that the Education Committee are proposing to recruit Egyptian teachers whose standard of education is alleged to be better than that of the general run of Palestinian teachers.

MILITARY

230. Reference paragraph 204 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

Another training drive was carried out on the 12th.

250

(253)

2.

AMERICAN MISSION

231. Reference paragraph 207 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

The American Mission and their satellites have taken up their quarters in the quarantine station at Shuwaikh which has been duly disinfected. The first barge is approaching completion.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

232. Reference paragraph 218 of Kuwait Summary No. 12.

Two Non-commissioned officers and 16 T.O.R. arrived from Shaibah on the 2nd of July in order to salvage the crashed plane. The party were not overburdened with luck. The plane proved difficult to move and they had one mild heat stroke case and a suspected appendicitis. The ambulance lost its way coming down for the sick but got back to Shaibah with the two men very creditably in a bad dust storm on the 8th, while the two R.A.F. lorries with the salvage party lost themselves and each other and returned to Kuwait to await more favourable climatic conditions. The plane was loaded on to the S.S. "Esang" for Khorramshahr.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

233. On the 11th instructions were received from London ordering the Kuwait Oil Company to suspend their drilling operations for the duration of the War. Simultaneous communications were addressed to His Highness and the General Manager of the Company. His Highness replied that he quite understood the position and approved any works necessary to safe guard the field. The General Manager flew to Abadan on the 15th to consult Mr. N.A. Gass, M.C., a Director of the Company and ask for instructions. The Company are naturally perturbed but not really surprised.

234. EXCHANGE RATES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars | = | Rs. 170-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = | Rs. 117-0-0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs. 12-15- |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | Rs. 63-2-0 |

235. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 113.0° |
| Minimum temperature | 80.0° |

(Sd) T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

JULY 18, 1942.

251
(254)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 42 | Initials. | External Department. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | M. Committee | 24.8 | [illegible] | Ext 4346/42. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

Subject: Koweit – Intelligence Summary No 12. (June 16th - 30th).



Paragraphs of interest in the Summary are:-

207. Arrival of Americans in connection with assembling barges at Koweit

215-216. Dalé Gardens – The appeals in the Bashiya and Faddagiyah cases to be heard on July 11th.

217. Water Supply - Failure of boring operations near the Sheikh's house. Question of water supply in event of a stoppage of water traffic with Basra.

M. Rodgers.
22/8

For Information.

[illegible] 27/8
[illegible] 26/8
[illegible]
[illegible] 26.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

No. 12 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 16th to 30th June 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS

203. Squadron Leader A. Mills arrived on the 18th June to negotiate for the hire of twelve dhows of an average tonnage of 110 tons. These dhows are required for special work with the Royal Air Force and will be based on Bahrain. The Political Agent conducted the negotiations between the Royal Air Force and the owners and an agreement was signed on the 25th after a four days' delay while a reply in the affirmative from Air Headquarters, Iraq was awaited in regard to the question of acceptance by them of liability in respect of War damage to men and vessels. Squadron Leader Mills returned to Basra on the 26th.

204. Three training drives were made to Kuwait by various M.T. units from Basra.

205. Mr. R.E. Monck of the Ministry of War Transport, Basra arrived on the 18th June and returned to Basra on the 22nd. The purpose of Mr. Monck's visit was to co-ordinate the arrangements for the discharge of the M.V. "Hoegh Silverlight" laden with broken down barges.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

206. Mr. G.W.R. Smith of Gray, Mackenzie and Company Limited, Basra arrived on the 18th to supervise the unloading of the cargo of M.V. "Hoegh Silverlight" and returned on the 23th.

207. Twenty one American Citizens belonging to the American Mission and their contractors arrived on the 20th in connection with the assembling of barges at Kuwait. They have been temporarily housed in the Shaikh Khazal building. They will shortly transfer their quarters to the Quarantine Station which is adjacent to the scene of their labours. An alternative quarantine site has been provided and temporary accommodation constructed.

208. Mr. Wakelin, Educational Adviser, Bahrain passed through on the 29th. He came ashore for the day and discoursed on educational problems.

209. Dr. L.R. Scudder of the American Mission Hospital, Kuwait left for Bombay on the 25th. on leave, accompanied by his wife and two children. Dr. Nykerk, who arrived in Kuwait from Bahrain on the 18th, has relieved him.

210. Reference paragraphs 189 and 190 of Kuwait Summary No. 11.

Rev. and Mrs. Dykstra, Dr. J.J. Moerdyk and the Revs. George Gosselink and G.D. Van Peursen, left Kuwait on the 19th to return to their respective fields via Basra.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

211. On the 23rd the maximum temperature was 115°F., on the 24th it was 118.0 and on the 25th reached 121.5, the lowest minimum for the three days being 90.0. On the 26th a very severe dust storm blew steadily from morning until the afternoon of the 27th. The wind was accompanied by heavy seas, eighty feet of the new Agency pier were destroyed and the Agency flag looked like a series of "paying off" pennants. The ladies of Kuwait are busy stitching Union Jacks for the Agency in order to keep the flag

flag flying, our stock being perilously low and all sources of supply having dried up.

212. Several water boats from Kuwait were detained at Fao by the Director of Customs there on the grounds that the boatmen were not in possession of vaccination certificates. Representations were made by the Political Agent to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and His Majesty's Consul-General, Basra. All quarantine restrictions were withdrawn by the Iraqi authorities immediately.

213. Most of the ocean going dhows have now arrived, some from the African Coast and some from Malabar all looking tired and weather worn. A large dhow, now unloading sweet oil, sailed from Aden to Port Sudan in 7 days and took four months to do the return journey.

Large quantities of teak wood have arrived from Calicut and it is estimated that there must be at least five lakhs worth lying on the beach. There are also a considerable quantity of chandals available.

These arrivals have been reported to various formations but there is apparently no demand for building materials of this nature in Iraq.

The merchants would have been better advised to have brought food stuffs as the shipwrights are occupied on Government work and there will be few to spare for private ship building.

X 214. There are a few cases of typhoid fever in the town and Mr. E. Matheson, the Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran is among the victims.

215. DATE GARDENS

The Land Settlement Committee are reported to have appointed a Committee of experts to examine the palm trees on the Shaikh's Fao estates with a view to estimating their ages. It is understood that all trees found to be under fifteen years of age will be held to be the property of the Iraq Government but the grower will have the right to purchase them. This applies to re-claimed lands.

216. The hearing of the appeals in the Fashiya and the Faddagiyah cases will now be heard on the 11th of July. Shaikh Nusrat al Farsi, a well known Bagdad counsel, has been briefed with the concurrence of His Majesty's Embassy in Bagdad and it is sincerely hoped that this time these cases will be decided once and for all. His Highness' counsel has stated that he does not anticipate much difficulty in the Faddagiyah case but that the Fashiya case is practically hopeless.

217. KUWAIT WATER SUPPLY.

The water boring operations being conducted by the Kuwait Oil Company near the Shaikh's house have proved a failure. The Eocene limestone water was tapped but on being blown out by compressed air was found to be almost black in colour and stank of Sulphureted Hydrogen. The well has been plugged and abandoned. It is almost disappointing but by no means unexpected. The limestone water improves as one moves west, the wells on the coast being quite impossible while the water from some of the more westerly experimental wells is regularly drunk by the local inhabitants. The water from Well No. 6 is not at all unpleasant and the Political Agent is not in accord with the Abadan experts' view that this water cannot be drunk by Europeans.

? abandoned

all but

At

At the request of the Political Agent the Kuwait Oil Company have been examining the possibility of obtaining an adequate water supply locally for a temporary period in the event of a temporary or permanent stoppage of water borne traffic with Basra and the possibility of digging wells in a new area into the surface sands is being considered.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

218. At 11.30 a.m. on the 26th during the dust storm (see paragraph 211) an Oxford machine force landed and did considerable damage to itself fifteen miles west of Kuwait. The four occupants of the plane were unhurt and wirelessed their position to Shaibah as soon as they landed but it was not until 5 p.m. local time that the Political Agent was informed of the incident and that their water supply was low. A search party was immediately organised consisting of private cars and taxis and the crashed plane was located before 6.30 p.m. local time in spite of the dust storm which at times limited visibility to a matter of feet.

PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND

219. A play performed by the boys of the Kuwait Keblyiah School raised Rs. 364-14-0, which has been presented to the Persian Gulf Fighter Fund.

Another play was performed by the girls of the Kuwait Secondary School and a sum of Rs. 405 was raised, which has been presented to the Persian Gulf Fighter Fund.

220. EXCHANGE RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars | = Rs. 175-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs. 112-0-0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs. 12-9-0 |
| 1 £(Gold Sovereign) | = Rs. 64-0-0 |

221. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 121.5° |
| Minimum temperature | 79.0° |

(Sd) T. HICKINBOTHAM, Major,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

KUWAIT,
JULY 2, 1942.

SECRET

255 P.A.
(258) M.O. 28/8

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 19.8 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | ............Committee | 20 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 3974/42.
EXT 3975/42.
EXT 4011/42.

SUBJECT: KOWEIT – Intelligence Summaries Nos 9, 10 & 11 (May 1st to June 16th).



The Sheikh's health had improved, but he had still to avoid all excitement. (paragraphs 164, 187-8)

Other paragraphs of interest are:-

165 & 197. Salvage of R.A.F planes.

168 & 200. Inland Water Transport.

170. Currency – Successful efforts to overcome opposition to acceptance of notes at par.

174. Visit of the Political Agent to Riyadh.

179. Permission by Ibn Saud for certain tribes to migrate south from the Syrian desert and Iraq to the Hafar al Batin wells.

180. Smuggling of sugar from Bahrein to Persia.

[illegible] 27/8
[illegible] 26/8
[illegible] 26/8
[illegible] 26.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

192. The Supply Control Committee having come into conflict with the Controller of Finance, issues of flour were being made by the Executive Officer acting independently.

196 Oil Company - issue of "industrial conscription" regulation.

198. A.R.P.

M. Rodgers.
8/8

For Information.

Financial Secretary to see para. 170 in Summary No. 9.

E.W.R. Lumby.
13. viii.

Thanks.
G.M.B. 17.8

No.11 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for
the period from 1st to 16th June, 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

183. Air Commodore M.B. Russel, Officer Commanding 215 Group, Basra arrived from Basra by R.A.F. plane on the 5th and after discussing the question of dhows with the Political Agent at the Agency proceeded to Bahrain.

184. Lieutenant R.A. Naill, R.N.R., arrived from Basra in H.M.S. "Atlasi" on the 10th to relieve Lieutenant-Commander Maltby, R.N.R., who proceeded to Basra on the 14th in H.M.S. "Atlasi".

185. Commander James R.I.N. visited Kuwait onthe 4th in connection with the conversion of dhows into house boats for mine watching. So far four have been completed. The total programme is eleven vessels.

186. No attempt is made to maintain a record of all the official visitors to Kuwait, indeed, some of them stay at the Agency for a night without the Political Agent ever hearing their names.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

187. On the 10th His Highness called at the Agency for the first time since his illness. He was in good spirits and mounted the stairs without difficulty.

188. On the 4th Dr. McClean and Mr. Clack of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company,Limited, Abadan arrived here by Company's plane. They returned to Abadan the same day. Dr. Scudder His Highness' medical adviser and Izzat Jaffer his A.D.C. have been endeavouring to persuad His Highness to spend some of the hot weather in a cooler place than Kuwait but fear of the expense involved has proved too much for them, and His Highness states that he has now decided not to go to the Lebanon this summer.

189. On the 5th the Rev. G.D. Van Peursem of the American Mission, Bahrain, and the Rev. and Mrs. D. Dykstra of the American Mission, Muscat, arrived here by S.S. "Wosang" to attend a conference at the American Mission Hospital, Kuwait.

190. The Rev. George Gosselink of Basra and Dr. W.J. Moerdyk of Amarah arrived here on the 8th by car.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

191. On the 11th there was an exhibition of school girls' hand work and needle work in the Mubarakiyah School. The Director of Education sent an invitation to the Political Agent who attended the exhibition.

192. A supply control comittee has now been set up to deal with a shortage of Barley and Wheat and stocks of Wheat have been taken over by the Kuwait Government and flour is being issued only to bakers. The idea is an excellent one but unfortunately the comitte cannot see eye to eye with Shaikh Fahad as Salim as Subah the half negro controller of Finance so that up to the present their energies have been disipated in internal quarrels, however they have a reasonably energetic Executive Officer who has been acting independently and making issues.

193. The King Emperor's Birthday.
All the shops and local Government offices were shut and a general holiday was observed in honour of the occasion. The usual reception was not held nor was the usual dinner party given.

194. Two evenings a week are now being devoted by the Political Agent and Mr. Scott M.C. of the Kuwait Oil Company to teaching the Europeans to shoot. A small two target range has been built and excellent progress is being made by the fourteen pupils most of whom have, curiously enough, no previous experience of handling a rifle.

195. The Political Agent was unable, owing to Sandfly Fever, to attend a dinner party given Shaikh Abdullah Mubarak the Governor of the town on/

-2-

on the 2nd but did attend dinner parties given to local personalities by Lt. Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E. on the 12th and Shaikh Salim al Hamood as Subah on the 15th.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.
196. The issue of Regulation 2 of 1942 has caused but little stir.
This is designed to prevent the employees of certain essential undertakings in the Gulf, including the Kuwait Oil Company, from leaving their jobs without the permission of the Political authorities.

AVIATION.
197. On receipt of a report from the Political Agent, Bahrain, on June 2nd that a Boston air craft was missing, the Political Agent, Kuwait, immediately sent a party by car to the southern limits of the territory to make enquiries and all dhows leaving port were asked to keep a careful look out for men or wreckage. No information about the plane has been received.
(It was eventually discovered to have made a forced landing on the Persian shore)

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.
198. Kuwait is taking the possibility of air raids seriously. A leaflet printed in English and Arabic has been distributed and His Highness* Secretary increased the alarm by making a public speech and calling on the people to preserve their calm. Our siren, a home made affair consisting of five powerful motor horns, has been erected in the centre of the town. Two practice alarms have been held and on both occasions the siren could not be heard on the windward side of the town, and sounded remarkably like a motor horn on the lee side of the town. No one was alarmed.

Endeavours are being made to obtain a more awe inspiring instrument from India.

PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND.
199. As a result of an appeal issued by the Hon'ble the Political Resident, a public meeting was convened by His Highness to consider ways and means of collecting money. Over Rs.30,000 has so far been subscribed.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.
200. Reference paragraph 168 of Intelligence Summary No.9.
An I.W.T. tug arrived here from Basra on the 9th and returned on the 12th with the five bellums for the I.W.T. and the thirteen wooden tanks for the Chief Engineer, Bases, Basra. Twenty five "bellums" of over 120 tons have now been completed at a total cost of Rs.2,36,700. This is a saving of Rs.11,300 on the original estimate.

EXCHANGE RATES.
201.

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Threasa dollars | 160 - [illegible] |
| 100 Saudi Rials | 108 - 0 |
| 1 Iraqi dinnar | 12 - 8 |
| £.1. (Gold soverign) | 53 - 8 |

METEOROLOGICAL.
202.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 112.0° |
| Minimum temperature | 78.0° |

June 16th, 1942.

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 16th to 31st May 1942.
No.10 of 1942.

(5)

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

173. The Political Agent visited Failaka Island and Hagaijah in the Agency Launch on the 19th and met His Highness the Ruler at the latter place. His Highness and the Political Agent returned to Kuwait on the 20th.

174. The Political Agent left for Riyadh by car on the morning of the 23rd. and returned on the evening of the 28th. During his stay at Riyadh the Political Agent had the honour of being received by His Majesty King Ibn Saud on the 24th and again on the 25th, and of dining with His Majesty on the 26th and a further audience at which he took leave to depart on the 27th of May. The Political Agent also visited the agricultural developement scheme at al Karaj and was entertained there by Shaikh Abdullah bin Suliman, the Finance Minister. Since his return the Political Agent has been experiencing the unpleasant effects of Sandfly Fever.

175. Major C.M. Adia and Captain P. Mackenzie visited Kuwait on the 29th on a training drive and returned to Basra on the 30th.

176. Captain F. Granger and 2/Lt. H.E. Whittle visited Kuwait on a training drive on the 31st May and returned to Basra on the 1st June.

177. Flight Lieutenent Wright, Signals Officer, Royal Air Force, Shaibah, accompanied by the two relieving wireless operators arrived in Kuwait on the 27th and returned with the two relieved operators the same day.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

178. On the 28th Mr. N. Gass, a director of the A.I.O.C. and Mr. Leys of Abadan arrived here by Company's plane. They returned to Abadan the same day.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

179. It is reported that the powerful tribal group of the Dahamsha, a sept of the great Anizah tribe inhabiting the Syrian desert, under their Amir Ibn Mijlad, have obtained Bin Saud's permission to migrate south from the Syrian desert and Iraq, and take up their summer quarters on the Hafar al Batin wells. There are so many of them that Ibn Saud has instructed any overflow who cannot water their camels at the above wells, to proceed to the Summan and camp on the Safa and other wells. Two things may have caused this migration south:-

(a) the difficulty of obtaining supplies from the Euphrates cities of Iraq, or
(b) Political mismanagement of the tribes affairs by the Iraq Government.

SMUGGLING.

180. It is reported that a dhow captained by Husain bin Abbas, an Iranian subject, sailed from Bahrain on the 9th of May with a cargo of sugar said to have been purchased from an Indian Merchant and exported on licence to Basra. The dhow arrived here on the 23rd and remained while the consignee Yusuf Behbahani received the price of the cargo from certain Iranian smugglers after which the dhow sailed for Bubiyan Island where the Iranians were to take delivery of the goods which would be smuggled into Iran. One smuggler appeared but the others did not and after waiting for a few days the Nakhuda sailed for Basra and was arrested at Fao for short cargo and sent to Basra to discharge. He has now returned here and the Iranians are sueing Yusuf Behbahani for the return of the purchase money. Yusuf Behbahani is said to have bought the sugar at Rs.50/- a bag and sold it to the smugglers at Rs.75/- a bag whereas the Iraqi's will only give him Rs.30/- a bag.

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 181. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 100 Maria Theresea dollars | = Rs. 160 -0 -0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials | = Rs. 105 -0 -0 |
| | 1 Iraq Dinar | = Rs. 12 -5 -0 |
| | 1 £. (gold sovereign) | 52 12 -0 |

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 182. | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maximum temperature | 103.0° |
| | Minimum temperature | 76.0° |



Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET No. 9 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 1st to the 15th May, 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

157. The Political Agent left for Basrah by car on the 11th, and flew to Bushire in an Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane through the courtesy of the General Manager of the Company on the morning of the 12th to discuss certain official matters with the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf. He returned to Basrah the same afternoon after visiting Gutch Saran, Agha Jari and Abadan, and so arrived at Kuwait by car at 11-30 P.M. the same night.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

158. Mr. N. Gass, a Director of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by the Company's plane on the 3rd and returned to Abadan on the 6th.

159. Dr. McClean arrived by Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's plane on the 3rd and returned to Abadan the same day.

160. Mr. Fish and Mr. Morgan two Americans from Umm Qasr visited Kuwait on the 3rd.

161. Lt. Col. Thouless and his wife arrived on the 3rd.

162. Lt. Col. Moffat and two of his officers visited Kuwait on the 3rd by dhow from Abadan and left the same day.

163. Mr. Gate of the C.I.C.I. called on the 14th.

THE AS-SUBAH.

164. Reference paragraph 140 of Intelligence Summary No.8.

Dr. McClean of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Abadan and Dr. Scudder came to see the Political Agent on the 3rd after they had seen His Highness. They both stated that they had come to a definite conclusion that it was not advisable for His Highness to be moved to Abadan for an electro-cardiagraph examination. Doctors McClean and Scudder both impressed on the Political Agent that the Shaikh's cardiac reserve was very slight and that any emotional excitement such as anger, or fear, or the strain of concentrated and worrying thought would tend to increase the likelihood of a second and possibly ~~fatalx~~ fatal attack.

His Highness' health has much improved and he can now walk short distances. He is in good spirits and looks better than before his illness.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

165. Reference paragraph 142 of Intelligence Summary No.8.

On the 3rd the Salvage party arrived here from Shaibah with three trailers, two lorries and a 5 ton crane and left for Saffaniyah on the 4th.

Flying Officer Barker returned on the 9th to say that his crane and one three ton lorry were stuck in a salt/

salt marsh. The California Arabian Standard Oil Company at Dharan were asked to go to his assistance and they very kindly agreeing he returned to Saffaniyah to await their arrival.

Two vehicles with rations arrived here on the 11th and proceeded to the site on the following day accompanied by Captain A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., Agency Assistant Surgeon.

The party complete with planes arrived here from Saffaniyah on the 14th escorted by Mr. Bunton of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company and proceeded to Shaibah on the 15th.

166. Squadron Leader W. Chase Air Liaison Officer, Bahrain, passed through Kuwait en route to Bahrain. He called to see the Political Agent.

MILITARY.

167. Reference paragraph 148 of Intelligence Summary No.8.

On the 9th Lt. Lumley R.E. and another officer arrived from Basrah to inspect the repairs carried out to the house of the heirs of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohammerah and to discuss the question of bitumen with the Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company. They returned to Basrah on the 11th.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

168. Reference paragraph 147 of Intelligence Summary No.8.

An Inland Water Transport tug arrived from Basrah on the 14th and returned to Basrah on the 16th with four bellums for the Inland Water Transport and thirty seven wooden tanks for the Chief Engineer, Bases. Four tanks willbe off-loaded at Khorramshahr for the Garrison Engineer there.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

169. The Political Agent attended the annual sports of the Mubarakiya school on the afternoon of the 15th. Prizes were distributed by Shaikh Abdullah Al Jabir as Subah, Director of Education and Chief Judge. The meeting was well organised and had the merit of being interesting, unusual in functions of this sort which normally consist of a number of half grown Arab boys running endless races on their heels.

CURRENCY.

170. Rupee notes have for some time past been at a considerable discount. This is partly because a silver coin exerts more appeal locally, however fallacious glitter, than does a nice clean note and partly because the sellers of gold ~~with~~ will not accept notes nor will the sellers of dinars who do but sell their dinars for money to purchase gold. This state of affairs has meant that the Agency, the Kuwait Oil Company, the Imperial Bank of Iran and various departments of the Armed Forces of the Crown who have made purchases in Kuwait have had to import large quantities of silver to pay wages and meet their other liabilities, a highly inconvenient and remarkably expensive proceeding. Endeavours have been made to

overcome/

259
262

3.

overcome the opposition to the acceptance of notes at par and it is pleasant to record that these efforts have been successful and that His Highness has issued a direction that notes will in future be freely taken and given by his Government Officials and by the leading merchants, this example is being followed by the Imperial Bank of Iran and notes are once more freely accepted.

EXCHANGE RATES

171. 100 Maria Thereasa dollars - Rs. 156-4-0
100 Saudi Rials - Rs. 106-6-0
1 Iraq Dinar - Rs. 12-4-0
1 £ (Gold Sovereign) - Rs. 52-4-0

172. METEOROLOGICAL

Maximum temperature 101.0
Minimum temperature 69.0

(Sd) T. Hickinbotham,
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

May 18, 1942.

salt marsh. The California Arabian Standard Oil Company at Dharan were asked to go to his assistance and they very kindly agreeing he returned to Saffaniyah to await their arrival.

Two vehicles with rations arrived here on the 11th and proceeded to the site on the following day accompanied by Captain A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., Agency Assistant Surgeon.

The party complete with planes arrived here from Saffaniyah on the 14th escorted by Mr. Bunton of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company and proceeded to

CURRENCY.

170. Rupee notes have for some time past been at a considerable discount. This is partly because a silver coin exerts more appeal locally, however fallacious glitter, than does a nice clean note and partly because the sellers of gold will not accept notes nor will the sellers of dinars who do but sell their dinars for money to purchase gold. This state of affairs has meant that the Agency, the Kuwait Oil Company, the Imperial Bank of Iran and various departments of the Armed Forces of the Crown who have made purchases in Kuwait have had to import large quantities of silver to pay wages and meet their other liabilities, a highly inconvenient and remarkably expensive proceeding. Endeavours have been made to

overcome/

260 P.A.
(263) M.O.
11/7

SECRET

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 42 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 24.6 | [illegible] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | ........Committee | 25 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 2996/42.
EXT 3155/42.
EXT 2935/42.

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos 6, 7 & 8. (16th March - 30th April.).

The most important event in Koweit during this period was the serious illness of the Sheikh (paras 120, 136, 140.

The rise in the price of foodstuffs caused much comment in the town. On April 14th the Advisory Council fixed maximum prices for rice and sugar (paras 103, 127.

The agreement between the Government of India and the Kuwait - Zubair Transport Company for the carriage of postal articles between Zubair and Koweit was signed on 22nd March (para 109.).

The Political Agent took rather a poor view of an Army purchasing officer and his party who visited Koweit to enquire about the price of sheep (para. 123.).



(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

Various aircraft made forced landings in the desert during this period (paras 100, 124, 142-6.).

No 9. oil well had been completed and No 10, eight miles west of Magwa, started. No 17 water well had been started at Khadamaa. (paras 149, 150.).

References to Umm Qasr will be found in paras 97, 118, 129, 138.

M. Rodgers.
16/6.

[initials] 2/7

[initials] 6/7/42

[initials] 2/7

[initials] 7 vii

For Information.

It is good that the Koweit Oil Company were so helpful when the Sheikh was ill.

It is also satisfactory that British activities in the Gulf are keeping the local ship-building industry busy (paras. 122, 134, 141 and 147). E.N.R. Lumby 23.vi.

[initials] 1/7

261 (264)

Secret No. 8 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th April 1942.





BRITISH OFFICIALS

132. Captain Holman and Lieutenant Lumley, Chief Engineer Bases Staff, Basra visited Kuwait on the 16th, to enquire about the purchase of building materials and the construction of wooden water tanks.

133. On the 20th Mr. S. Perowne, Director of Public Relations, Bagdad, and Major C.A.G. Savidge, M.B.E., who holds the same appointment in Basra, arrived to stay.

With His Highness' permission two cinema performances were given in the public square on the 21st and 22nd. Unfortunately on the 21st a very severe dust storm made it impossible to see the screen and after heroic efforts by the producers and the audience the performance had to be abandoned. On the 22nd a threat of rain caused the show to take place under a verandah roof but the clearing of the weather and the pressure of the populace caused the management to interrupt the show for twenty minutes and recommence in the open air. Some nine thousand people were present.

134. On the 23rd Lieutenant-Commander Maltby, R.N.R., Mine Sweeping Officer arrived here by air to discuss the question of dhows and launches for the Royal Navy.

135. Mr. and Mrs. Lanyon of the Ministry of War Transport arrived on the 26th and remained to lunch.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

136. Reference para 120 of Intelligence Summary No. 7.

On the 23rd Dr. McClean arrived here by A.I.O.C. plane for consultation with Dr. Scudder in connexion with His Highness' illness. He returned the same day.

137. On the 23rd a senior official of the British Overseas Airways Corporation called to see the Political Agent with Mr. Scott of the same corporation who has been staying here laying moorings and buoys.

138. On the 24th Mr. R. Kuss the American Drilling Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company who had been visiting

262
265

2.

Umm Qasr during the day called to see the Political Agent in the evening. He was very impressed by the lack of organisation there. He said there were twenty men to a Nissen hut, no electric light, no ice, one native servant to sixty men, and the most primitive sanitary arrangements.

139. Mr. S. Thorton, Divisional Manager of Cable and Wireless Limited arrived at the Agency on the 25th from Basra and left on the 29th. He is on a tour of inspection of Cable and Wireless Limited installations in the Gulf.

THE AS-SUBAH

140. Reference para 120 of Summary No. 7 of 1942.

Dr. Scudder of the American Mission Hospital, who is attending His Highness, has informed the Political Agent that His Highness' progress is satisfactory in most respects but he cannot pronounce him out of danger entirely. There is and will always be the danger of a second attack. Arrangements are being made for His Highness to visit Abadan for an essential medical test as soon as possible. He will probably be flown to Abadan by Company's plane and will remain in Abadan for 48 hours.

On the 21st His Highness had a very slight relapse sufficient however for the Political Agent to decide again to postpone his Riyadh trip.

ROYAL NAVY

141. H.M.S. Milford Countess arrived on the 23rd with a poorly constructed noah's ark in tow. The ark is to serve as a pattern for the carpenters who are to construct living quarters for mine-watchers in dhows now being purchased by the Royal Navy.

ROYAL AIR FORCE

142. A "Blenheim" aircraft landed at Kuwait at 1-30 p.m. on the 19th and the pilot was interviewed by the Political Agent at the landing ground. He stated that he had been escorting three "Hurricanes" to Bahrain, but owing to bad visibility and lack of petrol they had had to force land at Ras Mish'ab. The Political Agent arranged for Lieutenant-

Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., of the Kuwait Oil Company and Captain A.L. Greenway, M.B.E., Assistant Agency Surgeon to proceed in Oil Company's cars to Ras Mish'ab to get in touch with the pilots. On the 20th Colonel Dickson and Captain Greenway returned with the pilots having found the machines at Saffaniya and not at Ras Mish'ab. The pilots, an Australian, an Englishman and a Pole, reported that they had been treated with the utmost civility by the Saudi guards and villagers.

143. Flying Officer Barker arrived on the 23rd with fifteen men in two lorries with the intention of proceeding to inspect the wrecked "Hurricanes (see para 142 above). The political situation was explained and they returned to Shaibah. Permission to enter Saudi Arabia having been granted the party returned on the 28th in two light Ford "pickups" with narrow tyres. The party had been reduced in number to Flying Officer Barker, a sergeant, and two drivers. They were given a guide and an interpreter and went straight on to Saffaniyah the same day. They returned the following day, some what exhausted, having learnt that desert travel has its drawbacks. They returned to Shaibah on the 30th and will doubtless decide what action they propose to take to salvage the aircraft.144

144. On the 27th a "Valencia" force landed owing to lack of petrol and accommodation had to be found for one officer and six men for the night.

145. On the 29th three "Blenheims" force landed owing to bad visibility and accommodation had to be found for four officers and five sergeants.

146. On the 20th one "Blenheim" and five "Kittihawks" force landed but left the same day.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT

147. Reference para 122 of Intelligence Summary No. 7.

Eighteen of the I.W.T. bellums have been completed of which sixteen have been delivered and the remaining two of the original programme will be ready very shortly. An

additional three have been started.

MILITARY

148. The Survey of India have taken over but not actually occupied the large "Harem" building belonging to the heirs of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohammerah. The Agency is supervising certain works which are being carried out before the building is occupied.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

149. No. 9 well has been completed and No. 10 has been started at a new location eight miles west of Magwa.

150. No. 17 water well has been started at Khadama on the north side of the bay.

151. On the night of the 21st the wind gauge on a K.O.C. building at Magwa registered 61 miles per hour before being blown away.

LOCAL INTERESTS

152. A launch was sent from here by Shaikh Mohammad al Jabir, the Port Director, on the 20th and caught a "Jalboat" off Masjang Island with sixty rolls of smuggled piece-goods on board. The nakhuda was Johan bin Salim.

153. On the 22nd severe local hail storms occurred. A particularly unpleasant one was centred over the Shaqq and it is reliabily reported that 94 sheep and a camel were killed. Shallow lakes have formed in the Shaqq and at Subahiyah.

154. The Quarantine Medical Officer's launch is now ready.

155. EXCHANGE RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars | - Rs. 157-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi dinars | - Rs. 101-0-0 |
| 1 Iraqi dinar | - Rs. 11-13-0 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | - Rs. 52-0-0 |

156. METEOROLOGICAL

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 97.0 |
| Minimum temperature | 65.0 |

(Sd) T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

May 2, 1942.

SECRET. No.7 of 1942. 

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th April, 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS

112. Sir John and Lady Ward arrived on the 3rd and left on the 7th. They dined at the Agency on the 3rd. The Political Agent took Sir John Ward to call on His Highness the Shaikh at 9-30 A.M., of the 5th. The Shaikh was remarkably affable and appeared in excellent health.

113. Reference paragraph 94 of Kuwait Summary No.6 of 1942.

Miss Underhill and Miss Chambers left on the 3rd. Two more Matrons arrived on leave on the 11th and went to stay with Mr. and Mrs. Scott.

114. Lieutenant-Colonel Thornless of the Royal Corps of Signals arrived on the 2nd and stayed until the 5th. The C.S.O. had intended to accompany him but owing to some unexpected happening he returned to Baghdad in haste and does not seem to have had time to impart to Colonel Thornless the specific reasons for his visit. However Colonel Thornless inspected the telegraph line and was given general information on the telegraph, telephone, and W/T position.

115. On the 7th two officers from the staff of the D.C.E. Basra arrived to talk about bitumen and the water tank at Shuwaikh and to negotiate with the "Shaikhs" for 10,000 tons of bitumen delivered in Basrah. The Political Agent explained the position to them and passed them on to Mr. Scott of the Kuwait Oil Company for the more technical details. The Shuwaikh water tank (see paragraph 126 of Intelligence Summary No.15 of 1941) was built at the request of the D.C.E. Basrah and all the correspondence is in his office and information regarding bitumen has already been given to the D.C.E. the American Mission, the R.A.F.,

and/

266
(269)

- 2 -

and 10th Army.

116. Commodore C.F. Hammill, Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf arrived by air on the 14th and called informally on His Highness. The Shaikh was particularly pleased to meet the new Senior Naval Officer and repeated his offer of assistance.

117. Group Captain R.J. Legg of the Royal Air Force visited Kuwait by air on the 14th and informed me that he proposed to send a larger W/T set down at once and to increase the establishment to a corporal and three men. He gave instructions for the old W/T set, which had not been packed away, to be re-erected.

see para. 101.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS

118. On the 7th eight Americans arrived from Umm Qasr to take over some trucks due to arrive from C.A.S.O.C in Dhahran. They were in charge of Captain Lowe of the American Mission and were accommodated in and around the Agency. Owing to unforeseen delays at Dhahran the lorries did not arrive and so on the 8th the party returned to Umm Qasr. They visited Kuwait again on the 11th. The Political Agent drove out to the Kuwait-Saudi Arabian frontier and located the Dhahran party who arrived at Kuwait during the night. On the 12th the American ~~lorries~~ drivers having taken over the Dhahran lorries went to Umm Qasr.

119. On the 10th the Belgian Minister to Baghdad, Tehran and Kabul and Mdm. Graeffe lunched at the Agency. They gave some account of the appalling living condition in Belgium. They stated rats cost Sh.5/ and cats £.1/-. !

THE AS-SUBAH.

120. The Political Agent completed his preparations on the 4th to leave for Riyadh and Bahrain on the 5th but owing to the Shaikh's sudden and ~~severe~~ serious illness was forced to postpone his visit indefinitely. He informed Ibn Saud by telegram of the postponement and by letter of the reasons for the postponement.

Is Hajji H. a particular friend of Ibn Saud? RP

At/

267
(270)

3.

At 10 p.m. on the 4th the Political Agent was informed by Dr. Scudder of the American Mission that His Highness had had a serious heart attack and was suffering from coronary thrombosis. The doctor described his condition as critical and stated that he might not live till morning. The Hon'ble the Political Resident was at once informed of the position and through the magnificient co-operation of the K.O.C. and the A.I.O.C. a specialist flew down from Abadan on the morning of the 5th and remained here until the 7th. The Shaikh gradually improved in health and it was intended that as soon as he was able to fly without undue risk he should go to Abadan for special examination. This improvement was such that Dr. Scudder considered that he could travel on the 14th but owing to rumours of Shaikh Chassib bin Khazal's political activities the A.I.O.C. felt doubtful of the advisability of the Shaikh of Kuwait arriving suddenly in Abadan so on that day they flew the specialist and their pathologist over to carry out certain examinations here. Mr. J. Jameson, C.B.E., a director of the A.I.O.C. and the K.O.C., accompanied the doctors to offer personally the resources of his companies in as far as they could contribute to His Highness' recovery. The doctors have carried a number of tests which have been found highly satisfactory, and provided a portable electro-cardigraph can be obtained it will not be necessary for His Highness to go to Abadan.

Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., the heir presumptive, ~~a blustering~~ an ill mannered person of ~~very~~ doubtful political leanings was present in Kuwait during His Highness' illness and was ~~the least by no means~~ not helpful to the doctors.

121. Reference paragraph 56 of Summary No. 3 of 1942.

Shaikh Ali al Khalifah, C.I.E., died on the 13th of April at Hamana in the Lebanon. The news was received here on the morning of the 15th and immediately the flags were half masted and the shops closed. This Agency was closed and the Political Agent paid a call on the members of the

Government to offer his condolences to them and to Shaikh Ali's half brother Abdullah. There is deep regret at the passing of a loyal and trusty servant of the State and the people but it was not unexpected as he had been seriously ill for many months.

INLAND WATER TRANSPORT.

122. Reference paragraph 31 of Summary No. 2 of 1942.

Twelve bellums having been launched were handed over to Lieut-Colonel Pennant of the I.W.T. Basra who arrived with two river tugs from the Ganges, the "Manmohan" and the "Sikkim" on the 14th. The tugs left for Basra on the 15th with six bellums each in tow. Three more bellums have been launched and it is hoped to complete the original programme by the 23rd April.

MILITARY.

123. On the 9th an Army purchasing officer arrived to enquire about the price of sheep and the possibility of obtaining supplies from Kuwait. He was accompanied by a miscellaneous collection of Iraqis one of whom, an ill-mannered person of full habit by name Shaikh Abdul Qadir, was present during his interview with the Political Agent. It was explained to them that there was no objection to their purchasing in the northern part of the territory but not in or near the town. They were told that the prices ranged from Rs. 6 to Rs. 8 per animal and that very exceptional animals might cost Rs. 13 but that these were specially fed and difficult to obtain. The following day the Political Agent confirmed these figures. It was understood at the interview that the army required 1000 head a day in the Shaibah-Basra area and that the Iraqi contractor was demanding Rs. 14 a head and I regret to say I received the impression that he had been paid that amount. Shaikh Abdul Qadir was pleased to be impertinent during the interview and it was necessary to remind him where he was. It was learnt later that the party lunched with Shaikh Fahad as

5.

Salim, the negro half brother of Shaikh Abdullah Salim, C.I.E., who was at one time suspected of being interested in smuggling into Iraq and whose political inclinations are ~~pro-Axis~~. doubtful.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

124. On the 12th a Hudson air craft force landed and the crew were accommodated at the Agency. The air craft was repaired and continued its flight on the 15th.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

125. One Warrant officer and 3 B.O.R. arrived here on the 8th. They gave an incendiary bomb demonstration outside the Agency compound which was attended by the British staff of the K.O.C., the Director of Public Security, the Chief of Police, His Highness' Secretary, the town guards and the local Police.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

126. It is reported that Shaikh Abdullah al Mubarak, having received information that a shop-keeper in Jahra had sold a bag of sugar to some Iraqis, inspected all the shops in Jahra. He found 22 shops in a small village and he ordered two of them to be closed at once. It is probable that others will be closed as an anti smuggling measure.

127. Prices of staple food stuffs have been rising with considerable rapidity but on the 14th after continuous pressure from the Agency Shaikh Abdullah al Salim, C.I.E., and the Advisory Council fixed the maximum price of Karachi rice at Rs. 21 and of sugar at Rs. 60. Reports arriving here from Karachi merchants that the Karachi authorities will not permit the export of more than 4500 bags of rice a month to Kuwait whose needs are in the neighbourhood of 14,500 bags a month has caused considerable exitement in Government and Commercial circles here.

128. Shaikh Abdullah Salim left for Falaicha on the 14th and returned on the 15th.

270
(273)

6.

129. An announcement in the Iraq Times on the 2nd of April 1942 that Sir John Ward had become Director-General for all ports in Iraq caused some comment and the Political Agent was asked if this was meant by the Iraqi Government to show that they considered Umm Qasr an Iraqi port.

130. EXCHANGE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars | = | Rupees | 158-0-0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials | = | " | 103-8-0 |
| 1 Iraqi dinar | = | " | 12-0-0 |
| 1 £ (gold) | = | " | 52-0-0 |

131. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 86.1 |
| Minimum temperature | 48.0 |

(Sd) T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

April 16, 1942.

SECRET. No. 6 of 1942. FILE COPY

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March, 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

93. The Political Agent visited Umm Qasr on the 17th, Fantas on the 20th and Magwa on the 30th.

94. Miss Underhill, Matron of No. 61 B.G.H, and Staff Sister Chambers arrived from Shaibah on the 25th ~~on~~ for ten days.

95. Colonel A.I. Sargon, D.S.O., O.B.E., of the Combined Intelligence Centre, Basra, arrived on the 16th and left the same day.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

96. Mr. Dobbs of the British Overseas Airways Corporation, Basra, arrived on the 25th and returned on the 26th.

97. Colonel Leiber of the United States Army and Mr. Sells who is engaged in the Umm Qasr project arrived on the 31st and left the same day. They were accompanied by Mr. Evans of the A.I.O.C Abadan and examined the bitumen deposits at Burgan. They made various experiments which were highly successful but later stated that they were not interested in the deposits as the equipment they had ordered from America was unsuitable for the process that would be necessary to render the Burgan bitumen suitable for road surfacing.

98. Archdeacon Stewart arrived on the 30th and held services at Magwa and Kuwait on the 31st.

AVIATION. ROYAL AIR FORCE.

99. On the 25th and 29th aircraft arrived and returned the same day.

100. On the 18th a Naval aircraft strayed from the direct course to Shaibah from Habbaniya and owing to shortage of petrol was forced to land at Abu Hadeiryah. The pilot was able to obtain some motor spirit from the employees of the C.A.S.O.C and retraced his steps here where he was able to spend the night and having been provided with a high grade fuel returned to Shaibah on the 19th.

101. Acting on instructions from R.A.F. Headquarters Habbaniya the R.A.F. W/T here was closed on the 27th. This order seemed to surprise the R.A.F at Shaibah and the personnel have received orders to remain here for the time being and await further instructions.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

102. On the 26th Jarbuh bin Abdul Mahsin al Khazar of the Amayir Section of the Beni Khalid tribe called on the Political Agent.

103. The rise in prices of food stuffs, in particular sugar, has caused much comment in the town and some criticism of the Kuwait Government for not having introduced price control. Indirectly prices have been controlled by the Kuwait Government's restriction on all exports except to Saudi Arabia but this is not generally realised by the less affluent members of the community. It is interesting to note that in spite of any form of direct control prices here with exception of sugar and ghee compare very favourably, bearing in mind the higher freight charges, with those recently published in the Muscat Intelligence Summary.

1st April, 1942.

| | |
|---|---|
| Rice (Bellum Karachi) per bag... | Rs. 18 - 0 |
| Wheat, per bag... | Rs. 17 - 0 |
| Wheat flour, per bag... | Rs. 21 - 0 |
| Coffee, per 9 lbs | Rs. 4 -14 |
| Ghee, per 9 lbs. | Rs. 7 - 0 |



104. Ref. paragraph 84 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1942.

Divers/

272
275



Divers have succeeded in recovering 115,000 rupees and riyals from the dhow "Taiysir".

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

105. Lieut-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Chief Local Representative of the Kuwait Oil Company, and Mrs. Dickson, M.B.E., left for Dhahran by car on the 27th.

106. On the 22nd the Political Agent and the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company examined a number of local school boys and selected five for Company scholarships at the Bahrain Technical School. The standard of education was generally high and their knowledge of English surprisingly good in view of the fact that the Kuwait schools are entirely Arab controlled and that there are no non-Arab masters except the religious instructor who is a Turk.

107. SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference paragraph 69 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1942.

On the 24th sixty seven Saudi Government lorries of considerable size arrived from Riyadh and loaded with rice and sugar and a small quanitity of tea and coffee. The purchases were made on behalf of the Saudi Government by their Trade Agent, Abdulla al Qadhi.

108. IRAQ.

On the 15th His Highness informed the Political Agent that he was surprised to have received a letter from his son Shaikh Muhammad in Basra to the effect that the Mutassarif of Basra accompanied by Colonel A.T. Sargon, DSO., OBE., of the C.I.C.I proposed to visit Kuwait on the 16th and wished to lunch with him. His Highness enquired whether the Agency had any information with regard to the purpose of the Mutassarif's visit and who Colonel Sargon was. Unfortunately the Agency had not been consulted by C.I.C.I so was unable to furnish any information with regard to the Mutassarif but was able to explain Colonel Sargon's position.

The Shaikh decided to accede to the request and he instructed his son to convey a welcome to the Mutassarif and to accompany the party from Basra to Kuwait. On the 16th the party arrived and after calling on the Shaikh, the Mutassarif accompanied by his Chief of Police and Colonel Sargon called on the Political Agent. Later the Political Agent was present at lunch at Dasman Palace. The Mutassarif seemed a pleasant person and the visit was said to be a sudden thought of his to occupy a local holiday and escape from Basra. He stated that he had noticed three pleasing things in Kuwait and they were, the women's dress (purdah), the cleanliness of the streets, and the civility of the youth of the town. After lunch the party returned to Basra.

? 109 (107). KUWAIT POST OFFICE.

Reference paragraph 89 of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1942.

The agreement between the Government of India and the Kuwait - Zubair Transport Company for the carriage of postal articles between Zubair and Kuwait was signed at the Agency at 10 a.m on 22nd.

110. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars | ... | Rs. 168-12 |
| 100 Saudi Riyals | ... | Rs. 101. 0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar... | ... | Rs. 12- 2-6 |
| 1 Gold Sovereign | ... | Rs. 52-12 |

111. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 91.5
Minimum temperature: 51.1

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd April, 1942.

SECRET 273 (276)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ........Committee | 25.5 | RA | EXT 2417/42. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | EXT 2418/42. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | M.P |

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos 4 & 5. (Feb 16th - March 15th).

There is little of interest in these summaries, except paragraphs:-

70. The branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran started to function on Feb. 28th.

81. Visit of Sheikh Chassib, eldest son of the late Sheikh of Mohammerah, to Koweit.

83, & 87. Visit of Shukri Kuwatli† to Ruyadh.

88. Allied reverses in the Far East were blamed locally on America.

† Syrian Nationalist leader.

SEEN 3 JUN 1942 POLITICAL COMMITTEE

M. Colgers. 22/5

For information. E.W.R. Lumby 28.V.

[Margin initials: 4/6; 3/6; 3/6; 2/6]

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

SECRET. No. 5 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March, 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

73. Reference paragraph 66 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1942.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident, accompanied by the Political Agent, lunched with His Highness and Shaikh Subah An Nasr at Araifjan on the 1st.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident left for Bahrain in s.s. "Nearchus" on the 3rd.

74. The Political Agent left for Bahrain on the 5th by the overland route and returned on the 10th by the same route.

75. On the 7th Major R. Holmes, M.B.E, Residency Surgeon and Chief Quarantine Medical Officer Bushire, landed at Kuwait from s.s. "Pronto" during the ship's stay.

76. Lieut- Ross of the 4th Indian Survey Co. arrived on the 9th and left on the 11th.

AVIATION.

77. Royal Air Force. Aircraft visited Kuwait on the 4th and 15th.

78. A.I.O.C. Ltd. Aircraft arrived on the 14th and 15th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

79. Reference paragraph 56 of Kuwait summary No. 3 of 1942.

At His Highness' request, and through the kindness of Mr. Dobbs of B.O.A.C and the A.I.O.C at Abadan, careful and elaborate arrangements were made to convey Shaikh Ali al Khalifan, C.I.E, from Kuwait to Lake Tiberias by air and from thence to Hamana by ambulance. The day before he was due to leave here he suddenly decided that nothing would induce him to fly. He wept when remonstrated with by His Highness and left with a suitable number of relatives and a Syrian Doctor on the 7th by car. Much to the surprise of the medical men here the old gentleman has arrived safely in Syria.

(margin note: said to be suffering from neglected diabetes and an inherited tendency to phthisis)

80. Shaikh Abdulla Salim, C.I.E left for Falaicha on the 6th.

81. Shaikh Chassib, eldest son of Shaikh Khazal, lately Shaikh of Mohommerah, arrived here from Basra on the 3rd, and left on the 13th. He called on the Political Agent on the 4th and/

and 12th. A separate report has been submitted to the appropriate authority regarding the purpose of his visit.

82. The road from Kuwait through Jaria, Abu Haderiya, and Jubail to Dharan is in reasonably good condition and can be negotiated by a modern car with medium size tyres in the winter months without difficulty. The total distance from Kuwait to Dharan is three hundred and seventy miles and the journey can be accomplished in eleven to twelve hours driving.

On coast south of Qatif

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kuwait | - Jaria | 150 miles (Saudi Govt. petrol). |
| Jaria | - Abu Haderiya | 108 miles (C.A.S.O.C.petrol). |
| Abu Haderiya | - Dharan | 112 miles (C.A.S.O.C Headquarters) |

83. Reference paragraph 54 of Kuwait summary No. 3 of 1942.

Reports were received here on the 4th that Shukri Kuwatli had returned unexpectedly to Riyadh from Baghdad and that he was the bearer of a personal letter from Nuri Said to Ibn Saud containing profuse apologies for the Saudi diplomatic mail incident and offering to make whatever amends Ibn Saud demanded. It is said that the Iraqi Foreign Minister is unaware of the contents of this letter.

see Bahrain Summary No 5 para 34.

84. Divers are said to have left to try and salvage some of the one hundred and seventy five thousand rupees and riyals lost in the dhow "Taiysir" bound from Bahrain to Kuwait and owned by Yusuf bin Erefan.

85. On the 7th March the boom "Mansoor" owned by Ahmad al Kharafi of Kuwait and commanded by Musaed al Ajil with a crew of twenty three outward bound from Bombay to Kuwait with a ~~hired~~ mixed cargo went ashore at Al Matif on the Persian Coast one hundred miles south of Bushire and was abandoned. The Captain and crew were rescued by the boom "Kutaiba" belonging to Abdul Aziz As Saqar of Kuwait and there were no casualties. The cargo was a valuable one consisting largely of piecegoods and was worth rather more than Rupees 4,00,000 a part of which is said to be covered by insurance.

86. On the 8th a Kuwait registered boom arrived from Dubai. The Captain had four antiquated rifles which he stated he bought from brokers in Dubai and which he proposed to sell in Iran. The rifles have been confiscated by the Kuwait authorities and the case is

still/

-3-

still under consideration.

87. Hashim al Khalil First Secretary of the Iraqi Legation in Jedda called on the Political Agent on the 3rd. He is hurrying to Riyadh in order to arrive there before Shukri Kuwatli leaves and is said to be hoping to discuss frontier disputes with the Saudi authorities.

88. There has been little comment in the town on our further misfortunes in the Far East and people still continue to hold America responsible for the reverses our arms have suffered.

Rus is a good thing! RST

89. POST OFFICE. Reference para. 28 of Kuwait summary No.2 of 1942.

The Kuwait - Zubair Postal service was resumed on the 10th

90. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

Mr. L.D. Scott, M.C., General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company left for Abadan in an A.I.O.C aircraft on the 14th and returned by the same mode of transport on the 15th.

91. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Saudi Rials ... | = | Rs. 102. |
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars. | = | Rs. 155 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = | Rs. 12-9 |
| 1 £. (Gold Sovereign) | = | Rs. 54. |

92. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 87. 5 |
| Minimum temperature: | 56. 2 |
| Rainfall : | 0.47" |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th March, 1942.

SECRET.

No. 4 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 28th of February, 1942.

----

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

64. On the 18th the Political Agent visited Subaihiya.

65. The Political Agent left for Basra on the 22nd by road and returned on the 24th.

66. The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel W.R. Hay, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his family and staff, arrived from Basra on the 26th on s.s. "Nearchus". Official calls were exchanged with His Highness on the 27th.

67. Mr. Chaplin of the British Embassy, Baghdad, arrived on the 20th from Basra and left on the 22nd.

68. AVIATION.

On the 18th an aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

69. SAUDI ARABIA.

On the 26th some 104 lorries belonging to the Saudi Government came to Kuwait to take foodstuffs to Riyadh.

Copy for Bank File

70. IMPERIAL BANK OF IRAN. The bank started to function on the 23th.

71. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 73 |
| Minimum temperature: | 47 |
| Rainfall ... | 0.32" |

72. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Saudi Rials ... | = Rs. 101 - 0 |
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars. | = Rs. 137- 8 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = Rs. 52- 12 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar ... | = Rs. 12- 8 |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd March, 1942.

SECRET.

(281)

278

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 42 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | ..........Committee | 16.4 | RT |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 1797/42.

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summary No 3. (Feb 1st - 15th).



Mr. Luard of the A.I.O.C, in an interview with the Political Agent, stated that, according to his latest report, arms were no longer procurable from Koweit; and that he considered not more than 70 rifles had been imported into Tangistan from Arabia during the previous three months.

As the Koweitis have long despised the Japanese, the loss of Singapore was a bad blow to our prestige. There was a tendency, however, to blame the Americans for our misfortunes in the Far East.

It was rumoured that Ibn Saud was

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

proposing to organise, indirectly, raids into Iraq territory in the hope that the Iraq Government would be induced, thereby, to adopt a more reasonable attitude towards Iraqi misdemeanours in Saudi territory.

The Koweit Government had turned its attention to A.R.P.,

There were First Aid lectures and experiments were being made with a siren.

M. Colgers

For Information.

E.W.R. Lumby
16.iv.42.

SECRET.

No. 3 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th February, 1942.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

39. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 1st, and the Kuwait Oil Company's new water wells fifty miles to the west of the town on the 15th.

40. Major Jenney of the Survey of India arrived from Basra on the 3rd and left on the 5th.

41. Lieut. M.N. Berry of 104 T.N. Stores Company, Margil, arrived on the 9th and left on the 10th.

42. Mr. Bertram Thomas, Publicity Officer Bahrain, arrived from Basra on the 6th, and left on the 8th by launch for Fao.

43. Mr. Walker, Commercial Secretary British Embassy, Baghdad arrived from Basra on the 9th and left the next day.

44. Captain A.C. Stewart of the Indian Political Service landed while the ship was in the port on the 11th.

45. Colonel E.A. Skinner, G.S.O.I Lines of Communication, Basra, accompanied by Colonel Leimburg and Mr. Sells of the United States Army Department, visited Kuwait on the 12th.

46. Mr. Monck of the Ministry of War Transport Basra, arrived on the 13th, and left for Basra the next day.

47. Mr. J.M. Hankin-Turvin of the Palestine Police arrived from Basra on the 13th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

48. On the 5th Mr. J. Luard of the A.I.O.C had an interview with the Political Agent regarding arms traffic into Iran. He stated that his latest report regarding the trade in arms was to the effect that arms were no longer procurable from Kuwait. He further stated, in answer to questions, that he considered that not more than 70 rifles had been imported into the Tangistan area from Arabia during the past three months.

49. On the 7th Mr. Faunthorpe, Mr. Cook and Mr. Shaw of the A.I.O.C, and Mr. F.H. Johnson Manager of the Khorramshahr branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran, arrived from Abadan

by air.

AVIATION.

50. Royal Air Force. Aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 14th and left the same day.

51. A.I.O.C. Ltd. Aircraft arrived on the 4th and 7th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

52. Shaikh Abdulla Salim As Subah, C.I.E., returned from Falaicha Island on the 6th and left for Basra on the 12th. He called on the Political Agent on the 11th, and stated that his visit to Basra was for medical treatment solely but in fact it is probably to enable him to sound local Iraqi opinion on world events and acquaint himself with the latest developments in As Subah circles in the Basra Liwa.

53. Saiyid Abdul Wahab bin Saiyid Khalaf Al Naqib called on the Political Agent on the 14th.

54. On the 13th Shukri Kuwatli on his way from Saudi Arabia to Baghdad called on His Highness and discussed the weather. He later left a card at the Agency.

55. On the 3rd the Automatic Telephone Exchange was ~~formerly~~ formally opened by the Shaikh. The Political Agent was not present owing to a regrettable lapse of memory on his part.

56. Reference paragraph 34 of Kuwait summary No. 2 of 1942.

Shaikh Ali al Khalifah has much improved in health.

57. The inhabitants of Kuwait have for long despised the Japanese and, in as far as their Military prowess was concerned, placed them in the same category as the Italians. It is therefore with something akin to consternation that they have listened to the wireless record of the triumphant advance of the Japanese into British, American and Dutch territory in the Far East. The loss of Singapore has been a sad blow to our prestige but possibly not as great as we may think, for it is freely stated in Kuwait that these disasters could never have occurred if we had been free to give our whole attention to the Japanese problem or even if the United States of America had been capable of dealing with the Japanese effectively

-2-

by air.

AVIATION.

50. Royal Air Force. Aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 16th and left the same day.

51. A.I.O.C. Ltd. Aircraft arrived on the 4th and 7th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

52. Shaikh Abdulla Salim As Subah, C.I.E., returned from Failaicha Island on the 9th and left for Basra on the 12th. He called on the Political Agent on the 11th, and stated that his visit to Basra was for medical treatment solely but in fact it is probably to enable him to sound local Iraqi opinion on world events and acquaint himself with the latest developments in As Subah circles in the Basra Liwa.

53. Saiyid Abdul Wahab bin Saiyid Khalaf Al Naqib called on the Political Agent on the 14th.

54. On the 15th Shukri Kuwatli on his way from Saudi Arabia to Baghdad called on His Highness and discussed the weather. He later left a card at the Agency.

55. On the 3rd the Automatic Telephone Exchange was ~~formerly~~ formally opened by the Shaikh. The Political Agent was not present owing to a regrettable lapse of memory on his part.

56. Reference paragraph 34 of Kuwait summary No. 2 of 1942. Shaikh Ali al Khalifah has much improved in health.

57. The inhabitants of Kuwait have for long despised the Japanese and, in as far as their military prowess was concerned, placed them in the same category as the Italians. It is therefore with something akin to consternation that they have listened to the wireless record of the triumphant advance of the Japanese into British, American and Dutch territory in the Far East. The loss of Singapore has been a sad blow to our prestige but possibly not as great as we may think, for it is freely stated in Kuwait that these disasters could never have occurred if we had been free to give our whole attention to the Japanese problem or even if the United States of America had been capable of dealing with the Japanese effectively

single-handed as certainly two thirds of the population here thought would be the case. The tendency is to blame America for our Far Eastern misfortunes.

58. IMPERIAL BANK OF IRAN.

On the 14th the Political Agent and Mr. E.S. Matheson, the Manager of the Kuwait branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran, called on the Shaikh and Mr. E.S. Matheson presented to His Highness, on behalf of his Directors, a handsome silver cigarette box to commemorate the signing of the Bank Agreement on the 18th of December, 1941.

59. SAUDI ARABIA.

It is rumoured that King Ibn Saud, tired of Iraqi procrastination, is proposing indirectly to organize raids into Iraq territory with the hope that the Iraq Government will be induced thereby to adopt a more reasonable attitude in regard to misdemeanours committed by Iraqi tribes in Saudi territory. A somewhat voluminous but not altogether reliable report on this subject has been received in the Agency.

60. KUWAIT CUSTOMS.

Reference paragraph 221 of Kuwait summary No. 21 of 1941.

It is now learnt that the increase in import duty will apply equally to British and Kuwait subjects.

61. AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

The Kuwait Government have not been idle and the A.R.P. Committee have taken in hand the problem of an adequate Air Raid warning and are experimenting with a diabolical contrivance constructed out of motor car horns which it is intended to erect on the tallest building in the centre of the town. First Aid classes are well attended.

In a laudable though ill timed endeavour to show their zeal the Committee have completely removed the mat and wood covering of the streets of the "Suk" as a preventative against fire from incendiary bombs. A very necessary precaution but

-4-

but one which need not have been carried out at this juncture. The shopkeepers are annoyed and as is usual in such cases blame the British Government as represented by the Political Agent for their discomfort and the extra expense they will be put to in erecting tin sun shades over their shop doors.

62. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | |
|---|---|
| 100 Saudi Rials. | = Rs. 101- 0 |
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars. | = Rs. 134- 0 |
| 1 £. (Gold Sovereign) | = Rs. 47- 4 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar | = Rs. 11-14 |

63. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 74.6° |
| Minimum temperature: | 41.5° |
| Rainfall ... | 0.12" |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th February, 1942.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
7. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O.3"W", General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
8. The Combined Intelligence Centre, Iraq, C/o British Embassy, Baghdad.
9. The General Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Baghdad.
10. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
11. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
12. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, Basra.
13. The Political Agent, Muscat.
14. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
15. The Political Officer, Trucial Coast.
16. The Staff Officer (Intelligence) Persian Gulf, Bahrain.
17. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
18. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
19. The Resident Adviser, The Residency, Mukalla (Via Aden).
20. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (through P.A. Bahrain).
21. Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE., Representative of the Government of India on the Middle East War Council, 10, Sharia El-Tolumbat, Garden City, Cairo.
22. Headquarters, Lines of Communication Area, Basra.

---------------------

SECRET 284 (287)

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. | EXTERNAL Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Pol Committee | 4·5 | | Ext 1998/42 |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | Ext 1999/42. |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos 1 & 2.

These Summaries cover January last. The following paragraphs are of interest:-

9. Amir Fawwaz As Shaalan of the Ruwalla (Syria) visited the Political Agent, and expressed his discontent with French administration and his enthusiasm for the British.



10 & 12. The considerable rise in prices had been checked by a prohibition on the export of all goods except to Saudi Arabia. Warehouses were well stocked with sugar, rice and tea.

25. Smuggling of sugar from Koweit.

26. Import of gold into Iraq by Koweiti merchants

27. Cases of small pox had occurred on boats

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

arriving at Koweit.

28. Basra-Koweit Postal Service - Dissatisfaction was expressed at the failure of H.M.G. to arrange for the resumption of the service. | The mail service has since been resumed, but the telegraphic arrangements still leave something to be desired.

29. Umm Qasr. Work was progressing slowly.

31. Various projects - none of which has borne fruit yet - for developing Koweit as a communications centre.

36. The Koweit Oil Company had decided to continue the present programme for one year.

It doubtful whether the Company will be able to obtain enough material to carry on for so long, although their existing operations are little more than a façade.

M. Colgers.
29/4.

For information.

C.R. Lumby.
2.V.42.

SECRET

285 (288)

FD DMI Apm Adm Mis O



No. 2 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January 1942.

462 1124 Committee 1797.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

15. The Political Agent left for Basra by road on the 27th and returned by air from Abadan on the 29th.

The Political Agent visited Umm Qasr on the 18th, Subahiya on the 23rd, Jahrah and Chadadiyah 24th, Fantas 30th and Magwa on the 31st.

16. Major Fisher R.E. visited Kuwait from Umm Qasr on the 24th.

17. Lieutenant-Colonel Clarke of the I.W.T. Directorate, accompanied by Lieutenant Berry, arrived from Basra on the 19th and returned the same day.

18. Major Harvey of the 104 TN Stores Co. visited Kuwait on the 21st.

19. Five R.E. Officers from Basra and 2 officers of the Poona Horse visited Kuwait on the 25th.

20. Captain Sharma and Captain Gopal Singh of the Indian Medical Service visited Kuwait on the 25th.

BRITISH NON OFFICIALS.

21. Dr. C.S.G. Mylrea, O.B.E. of the Arabian Mission left for Abadan by air on the 29th.

AVIATION.

22. Royal Air Force. On the 17th and 31st R.A.F. aircraft visited Kuwait.

23. A.I.O.C. Ltd. On the 29th A.I.O.C. aircraft visited Kuwait from Abadan.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

24. Yusuf bin Jassim al Yacoob, the director of Customs, has tendered his resignation. It has not been accepted yet. No one seems to know why he has taken this action, but it is suggested that he may have been interested in smuggling sugar to Iraq and Iran. There are many excellent reasons for dismissing the man but the only reason for his voluntary relinquishment of the perquisites of the appointment would be/

286

289

-3-

be fear of discovery. Possibly the Kuwait Government have much the same idea and are delaying a decision in regard to his resignation until they can make sure of his motive for resigning.

25. On the 31st night Shaikh Muhammad bin Jabir As Subah, the head of the Harbour Police and Port Authority, utilised his personal followers to intercept a cargo of sugar being loaded on to a dhow to be smuggled out of Kuwait. The capture was made after some shots had been fired. Shaikh Muhammad used his personal servants as he suspected his Police and found his suspicions well founded as two Policemen are seriously involved. The captain of the dhow has been flogged as well as the coolies employed, and the sugar has been confiscated. Enquiries are proceeding and are being watched with interest by many people.

26. It is reported that the Iraq Government have called upon a number of merchants to produce their books for examination in connection with gold imports or in default to pay a 15% extra-ordinary tax on gold sold by them or through them to money changers. It is suggested that most of the gold has come from India via Kuwait. If this is so, it has all been smuggled into the Amirate as none has been declared at the Customs. The Kuwait merchants affected are those normally resident in Basra. The following Kuwait merchants are reported to have failed to produce books and to have been summarily assessed as follows:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Al Sagar | £.I. | 2,000 (only provisional |
| Mohomad Thanayan. | " | 2,500 probably be increased. |
| Ahmad Abdul Latif al Hamad. | " | 6,000 |
| Muhammad al Ghanim | " | 1,500 |
| Fahad al Falaij | " | 5,500 |
| Mohomad Matrook | " | 4,000 |
| Al Khalid | " | 1,500 |
| Falaij al Falaij | " | 1,500 |

27. On the 15th some cases of small pox were reported in a boat recently arrived from the Batinah Coast (Muscat). The Quarantine Medical Officer made an immediate investigation and had the boat moved to the Quarantine Station at Shuwaikh.

The following day a careful inspection of all the other craft in the "nigah" failed to reveal any further cases. To date, of the crew of 17 in the Batinah boat, 8 have died and 4 seem likely to recover.

On the 31st two further cases were reported in "booms" that ~~same~~ day arrived from Basra. The boats have been quarantined.

Every possible precaution is taken in regard to infectious diseases, here, and as soon as the port can be legitimately described as "infected" information is immediately given.

28. The Basra - Kuwait Postal Service which was interrupted in May 1941 has not yet been resumed. The Iraq Government seem reluctant to permit the Basra Postmaster to hand the mails over to a representative of this Agency or of the Indian Post and Telegraph Department. The Shaikh and merchants of Kuwait cannot understand our failure to arrange for the resumption of this very necessary service and the Saudi Arabian representative has also expressed his surprise. It is certainly extraordinary and it is becoming increasingly difficult to find an answer to the question "when will you be able to arrange for the mail". This long delay is having a bad effect politically not only in Kuwait but in Saudi Arabia, as it is assumed that we are unable to insist on the resumption of what every reasonable person knows to be a necessary service.

The failure to resume telegraphic communication is equally serious.

29. Reference paragraph 113 (c) of Kuwait summary No.14 of 1941

Work at Umm Qasr is progressing slowly and is confined to storage tanks, bunds, and temporary hutments for the American engineers who are to construct the port. The water pipe line has been laid and after seven days pumping a little water had arrived, but the force will have to be much improved before it is of any value. The Political Agent examined the area from the land sea, and air during the period under report.

30. The Army authorities placed an order for 20 wooden water

288
(291)



tanks on the 22nd to be delivered in twenty days. The Agency is supervising the work and with luck the tanks will be ready on the date specified. They are 1,500 gallon tanks for railway stations.

31. The I.W.T and Ministry of War Transport have been nibbling at the Kuwait bait, and from time to time announce their probable intention of building 100 eighty foot "bellums", assembling 4000 motor cars a month, or assembling five hundred barges here. There have been numerous visitors to the Agency and to each has much information been given but so far nothing has been done nor does it seem probable that anything will be done.

32. During the month of January twenty six officers and civilians visited Kuwait on official business, of these sixteen were accommodated at the Agency for periods of one night to five days and the remainder were entertained.

33. Reference paragraph 210 of Kuwait summary No.20 of 1941.

Lieut-Colonel G. de Gaury is reported to have left Jedda by car and from thence travelled by launch to Kamaran from whence he was flown to Aden. It is reported that the Imam refused him permission to travel by car to Aden through Yemeni territory.

34. Ref. paragraph 147 of Kuwait summary No. 16 of 1941.

Shaikh Ali al Khalifah has much improved in health and it is now thought that he will be able to go to the Lebanon in two or three weeks time provided a satisfactory means of transport can be arranged. Shaikh Ali's recovering is in large measure due to the care and attention of Dr. Scudder of the American Mission.

35. Reports were received of large swarms of locusts on the borders of Kuwait territory on the 22nd. However, although the Political Agent visited Subahiya and Tawila on the 24th, and Chiddadiyah and the Manaquish road on the 25th, no sign of a locust was seen and it appeared that the reports were much

-3-

much exaggerated.

Locusts there were on the 22nd but in small quantities and it seems that, unable to face the barren plains of Kuwait, they retired west and south. One camel load sold for Rs. 60. They are esteemed a delicacy by some people.

36. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

Reference paragraph 238 of Kuwait summary No. 23 of 1941.

The Directors of the Kuwait Oil Company in London have decided to carry on with their present programme for one year and to review the situation again in six months time.

37. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 100 Saudi Rials ... | = | Rs. 101- 9 |
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars. | = | Rs. 132- 0 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | Rs. 43- 0 |
| 1 Iraqi dinar | = | Rs. 12- 1 |

38. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 73 |
| Minimum temperature: | 38.9 |
| Rainfall : | 0.10" |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,

2nd February, 1942. Political Agent, Kuwait.

FO DMY





SECRET.

No. 1 of 1942.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January 1942.



BRITISH OFFICIALS.

1. On the 2nd Lieutenant Lockhard, the United States Naval Observer, arrived from Bahrain by the overland route. He left for Basra the next day.

2. Major H.B. Humfrey, the Camel Purchasing Officer, left for Basra on the 3rd.

3. On the 10th Mr. R.F.G. Sarell, H.M's Vice-Consul, Basra, and Mr. Monck of the Ministry of War Transport arrived from Basra. They returned on the 11th.

4. On the 14th Mr. E.B. Wakefield, I.C.S., Officer on Special Duty left for Bahrain by the slow mail to take over the appointment of Political Agent, Bahrain.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

5. Mr. E.S. Matheson, Manager of the new branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran at Kuwait, arrived on the 15th from Basra by road.

AVIATION.

6. Royal Air Force. R.A.F. aircraft visited Kuwait on the 1st, 5th and 9th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

7. New Years Day. All the shops were shut and a general holiday was observed in honour of the occasion. It is a peculiar fact that whereas it is left to the individual choice of the merchants whether or not they close their business premises on Muslim religious holidays, on the King's Birthday and New Years Day there is no choice and all trading concerns must close by order of the Shaikh. Merchants and petty traders make the most of these two days and taxis with picnic parties may be seen all over the desert.

The usual reception was held by the Political Agent in the morning and the Shaikh made his customary call immediately after the Indian community and remained seated by the Political Agent's side for rather more than an hour during the reception of the As Subah family and the leading members of the Arab and Persian communities. On the 2nd day the Political Agent gave a dinner party in the Arab style which was attended by the Shaikh and the members of the As Subah, the principal burgesses of the Town, and the leading members of the foreign communities, the American Naval Observer was also present. Eighty two persons were invited and seventy five attended.

8. On the 13th a squadron of the Poona Horse visited Jahra on a training drive, the three British officers with the force dined at the Agency.

9. The Amir Fawwaz As Shaalan of the Rualla, a grandson of Nuri As Shaalan and since his father, Nawaf, is dead and his grandfather is over ninety, the present administration of the Rualla, returned from a short visit to Ibn Saud on the 12th and expressed a desire to call on the Political Agent. He was invited to tea. He is a young man of pale complexion with closely trimmed moustache, small pointed beard and large eyes set far apart on either side of a thin well shaped nose dressed in good taste and very well mannered. He was attended by his Secretary who looked more of the rough and daring tribal leader than did the Amir whose general appearance was rather that of the Shaikh of fiction than/

then of fact. During tea he was very outspoken and declared that they had expected and hoped to be under British rule on the expulsion of the Vichy French and were disgusted to find themselves still ruled by French though of the De Gaulle variety. De Gaulle and Vichy were much the same at heart in his opinion and he asked where people who were unable to rule their own country fit and proper persons to rule others? He said that they had been subject to French rule for twenty four years and had in no way benefitted from their control. He agreed that the present political arrangement was but temporary and looked forward to the self government of his country after the war. He said there were people capable of carrying on the Government - The Amir then spoke with enthusiasm of the British and of his numerous trips to Great Britain. He also described the fighting in the neighbourhood of Damascus and did not seem to think much of the Vichy or the De Gaulle troops.

10. Prices have risen considerably during the last few months sugar and rice are up 100%, firewood 300%, fowls 100%, motor tyres have risen from Rs. 35/- to Rs. 250 while tubes are now up to Rs. 100. The prohibition of export of all goods except to Saudi Arabia has checked prices and there has actually been some decrease in the cost of staple food-stuffs. Considerable pressure is being brought to bear on the Shaikh by interested persons to induce him to relax the prohibition but so far he has stood firm. As a result of the general rise in the cost of living higher wages are being demanded and obtained.

11. The accounts of the Kuwait Water Supply Company for 1940-41 have just been published. A profit of Rs. 11,946 is shown on the years working. The Kuwait Electrical Supply Company's accounts for the same period which have also just been received show a profit of Rs. 14,485.

12. All warehouses in Kuwait are stocked to overflowing with tea, sugar and rice. This is due partly to the order prohibiting export to places other than Saudi Arabia but principally to the temporary absence of motor transport owing to the large number of cars and lorries away on the Haj. Should good rains occur and grazing on the Riyadh road be plentiful then great quantity of goods will be exported by camel as car freights are high being Rs. 13/- a hundred weight to Riyadh.

13. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 100 Maria Theresa dollars | = | Rupees. | 130- 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | = | " | 101- 9 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar... | = | " | 12- 5 |
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | " | 41- 5 |

14. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 78
Minimum temperature: 33

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th January, 1942.

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1942 | Initials. | SECRET 292 (295) External Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ............Committee | 14.3 | | Ext. 1124/42, and 1125/42. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT :

Koweit Intelligence Summaries
Nos. 22 and 23.
(December, 1941)

Major H. B. Humfrey, Camel Purchasing Officer, visited Koweit, and was advised to go to al Hafar in Saudi Arabia. He returned by the end of the month and reported that the Nejdi camel dealers were unsatisfactory, but said that the Saudi officials had been both courteous and helpful. He purchased some 83 camels.

The meeting between Ibn Saud and the Shaikhs of Bahrein and Koweit passed off well. The Shaikh of Koweit told the Political Agent that the King "appeared to leave all matters external to his kingdom entirely to his Syrian advisers".

In conversation with the Political Agent, the Managing Director of the Kuwait Oil Company agreed that the Company should continue their work if only for the sake of making a good impression in Koweit and elsewhere.

The/

C.A. 19/3
18/3
18/3
18

Yes - if they can continue to get essential materials & gear sent out from home Rot. or from Iran.

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
20 MAR 1942

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

The agreement between the Shaikh and the Khorramshahr Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran was signed on the 18th December. It was hoped that a branch of the Bank would open in Koweit before the end of January. The headquarters of the Bank have informed us that a branch has now opened at Koweit.

Paragraph 237 of Summary No. 22 gives a useful summing up of the character and accomplishments of Izzat Jaffer, the Shaikh's Secretary.

H. Odgers.
11/3.

For information.

E.W.R. Lumby.
13.iii.42.

SECRET.

No. 23 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1941.

-----

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

241. On the 24th the Political Agent left for Basra and returned on the 25th. The purpose of the journey was to consult the Shaikh's lawyer, Abdul Jalil Partu. The interview was timed for 11 a.m on the 25th but the attorney was delayed and did not appear until two hours later.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

242. Reference paragraph 229 of Kuwait summary No.22 of 1941.

Mr. Jameson left for Abadan by air on the 16th.

243. Colonel H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E, Chief Local Representative of the Kuwait Oil Company accompanied by his wife, left for Baghdad on the 23rd on a short holiday.

244. Mr. F.H. Johnson returned to Khorramshahr on the 20th.

AVIATION.

245. An R.A.F. aircraft arrived on the 19th and left the same day.

A.I.O.C aircraft visited Kuwait on the 16th and 17th.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

1124 Extract for Bank file

246. Reference paragraph 233 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1941.

The bank agreement was signed on the 18th in presence of the Political Agent. It is hoped that the bank will open before the end of January, 1942.

247. The "Id al Adha" was held on the 29th and 30th of December. The Political Agent accompanied by the Officer on Special Duty paid twenty one congratulatory calls the first day and twenty the second day.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.



248. When work was resumed on the new water well, which has reached nearly a thousand feet without meeting the lime stone crust, it was found that the drill pipe had stuck in the hole. Efforts to continue drilling having failed an attempt to draw the pipe up was made but unfortunately the "Rig" was drawn down instead. No one was hurt but it is feared that nine hundred feet

of/

294
(297)

-2-

of drilling pipe, irreplaceable nowadays, have been lost. Efforts are still being made to recover the pipe.

SAUDI ARABIA.

249. Reference paragraph 228 of Kuwait summary No. 22 of 1941.

Major Humfrey returned from the al Hafar area on the 29th. He has so far purchased eighty three camels. Unfortunately the rain came too soon for him as the Bedouin relieved of the necessity of paying for water and with the prospect of fat grazing before them dispersed from the wells and raised their prices. The Nejdi dealers proved most unreliable and unsatisfactory, and no business was done with them. They refused to accept less than £.20/- for a camel which makes one wonder what prices are being paid in Egypt and Syria, for the camels that the dealers had already purchased from the Bedouin were destined for those markets. Major Humfrey said that the Saudi officials were at pains to be courteous and helpful wherever he went.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 250 | Maximum temperature: | 68 |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature: | 45 |

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 251. | 100 Maria Thereasa dollars. | = | Rupees. | 125- 0 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 100 Saudi Rials. | = | " | 105- 0 |
| | 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | " | 41-12 |
| | 1 Iraqi Dinar. | = | " | 12- 6-6 |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd January, 1942.

SECRET.

No. 22 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December, 1941.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

226. Reference paragraph 214 of Kuwait Summary No. 21 of 1941.

On the 3rd The Hon'ble Lt-Col. W.R. Hay, C.I.E, left for Basra en route to Bahrain.

227. On the 3rd the Political Agent left for Basra returning to Kuwait the same day.

228. Major H.B. Humfrey, Camel Purchasing Officer, arrived from Basra by car on the 7th. He visited various well areas in Kuwait territory but was unable to find male camels suitable for transport purposes. All the male camels are now in the neighbourhood of al Hafar in Saudi territory and it was decided that Major Humfrey's only hope of purchasing the number he required was to go to this place and establish a small camp there. Ibn Saud's permission was sought through the Shaikh and was readily accorded. So, armed with letters of introduction from the Saudi Agent here to al Hafar and accompanied by Saud bin Imran the Shaikh's head hawker an expert on camels and four guards, he set out with two army lorries and a civil lorry on the 16th to try his fortune. He has with him three Nejdi camel dealers. It is to be hoped that success will attend the venture though continuous rain must have made travel remarkably unpleasant.

see para 249 of Summary 23

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

229. On the 10th Mr. J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., Managing Director of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived from Abadan by air.

230. On the 15th Mr. F.H. Johnson, Manager of the Imperial Bank of Iran, Khorramshahr, arrived by road.

AVIATION.

231. Royal Air Force. On the 1st and 8th aircraft visited Kuwait.

232. A.I.O.C. Ltd. On the 10th & 15th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

233. Mr. F.H. Johnson has come to complete the agreement with the Shaikh for the opening of a branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran here. It is hoped that the agreement will be signed within the next two days.



Extract for Bank file

234/

234. On the 8th Saiyid Nedjmeddin bin al Saiyid Talib al Naqib visited the Political Agent. He is a fat unhealthy looking young man who completed his education at the University of Oxford and later became a barrister of Gray's Inn. He was at one time an employee of the Basra Port authority but seems to have found it convenient to relinquish his appointment. During the Iraq troubles he appears to have endeavoured to avoid any particular display of loyalty to either side by retiring to his family estates and as a result is, I gather, cordially distrusted by both sides. I understood that he proposes to spend the winter here as the climate suited his constitution (politically?), and I warned him to refrain from taking part in any political conversations or discussions lest he be misunderstood.

235. Reference paragraph 220 of Kuwait summary No.21 of 1941.
On the 11th His Highness returned from the shooting trip.

see Bahrein Summary 23.

236. Ibn Saud left the same day for Ramaitha and Shaikh Hamad bin Isa, Shaikh of Bahrain, for Bahrain. The camp was laid out on a very elaborate scale and was a very pleasant affair. The hawking was fairly good and the cold intense. In the course of conversation with me shortly after his return the Shaikh said that no politics were discussed and that Ibn Saud appeared to leave all matters external to his kingdom entirely to his Syrian advisers. The Shaikh said that it was most marked and more than once reverted to the subject during the course of my conversation with him.

237. On the 15th Izzat Jaffer, His Highness' Social Secretary, sought my advice with regard to a correspondence which he was engaged in with one Abdur Razzak al Hassani who is at present, and apparently very right and properly, in durance vile at the Fao Internment Camp. The correspondence which he handed over to me, has been sent to the appropriate authority to deal with. Izzat Jaffer also took the opportunity to offer his services for intelligence work in any part of Arabia or Persia and this offer has been duly reported. He is a moderately tall young man of light complexion, small dark beard which fails to conceal a weak chin, and large and fine eyes. He is well educated and speaks French and English moderately well. From his correspondence he seems to be attractive to women. He has been engaged in some interesting intrigues in his time and is the sort that will continue so to be engaged until he is shot or otherwise

disposed of.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

238. Mr. J.A. Jameson, CBE., called to see me on the 14th and stayed for three hours during which time he reviewed the affairs of the Oil Company here, the world oil position and army expenditure ?? in England. As regards the Kuwait Oil Company he asked if I thought that there would be any political reaction if the Company closed down for the duration of the war. I said my private view was that if the personnel were not required for essential war work ~~that~~ and if material for operations here could be made available without in any way affecting adversely the course of the war then operations should most certainly be continued for quiet and uninterrupted work created a very good impression which was not confined to Kuwait alone. It showed that the British and allied Companies were capable of carrying on with their peace time work in spite of a world war and that our resources and power ~~was~~ were equal to both the successful conclusion of the war and the continuance of peace time undertakings. Mr. Jameson said that material was available in Iran and that the personnel were not urgently required elsewhere and that my views were much the same as his own. He then informed me that Major F. Holmes, the Shaikh's London Representative of the Kuwait Oil Company had told him that Lt-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, the Chief Local Representative had lost the confidence of the Shaikh. I was able to assure him that this was like many other statements ~~emanating~~ emanating from the same source quite untrue. Mr. Jameson's visit caused considerable commotion in Oil Company circles.

Yes. "Honest Frank" is not a reliable guide. RA.

239. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 68°
Minimum temperature: 37°

240. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | Rupees. | 42-12 |
| 100 Maria Thereasa dollars. | = | " | 131- 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | = | " | 102- 0 |
| 1 Iraqi Dinar... | = | " | 12- 8 |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th December, 1941.

SECRET.

298

(301)

| Notes for Registry. | | 19 42 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | ...Committee | 9.2 | [illegible] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |



EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 460/42.

Ext 461/42

Ext 462/42.

Subject: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos. 19, 20, 21.



These summaries cover the period from 16th Oct. to 30th Nov. The following paragraphs are of interest:-

198 & 199 Activities of the R.A.F. in connection with the establishment of landing grounds, water supply and road construction.

200. Inspection of the Khor Zobeir area by Lt/Col Prior and the Political Agent.

202 & 216 Arrangements for the purchase of camels for the army by Maj H.D. Humfrey.

203 & 204. Construction of tanks at Shuwaikh.

207. Improvement in Indian pearl market.

208 & 209. Complaints of export restrictions from India. ~~[illegible]~~

[illegible] 17/2

[illegible] 17/2

[illegible] 19/2

[illegible] 22/ii

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

220. Meeting between Ibn Saud, the Sheikh of Bahrein and the Sheikh of Koweit.

221. Increase of Customs Import duty from 5 ½ % to 6 ½ % ad valorem not to effect British subjects

M. Rodgers.

For Information

E.W.R. Lumby.
7.ii.

SECRET.

No. 21 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November, 1941.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

214. On the 25th The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel W.R. Hay, C.I.E Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived from Bahrain by s.s. "Barala" accompanied by his staff. The usual exchange of calls with His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait was made on the same day.

On the 26th The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel W.R. Hay, CIE, left for Basra en route to Baghdad by road, returning to Kuwait by air on the 28th.

During his stay here he visited Magwa, Burgan, and Subaihiya.

215. The Political Agent visited Basra, Magwa, Burgan, and Subaihiya during the period under review.

216. Major H.B. Humfrey, Camel Purchasing Officer, visited Kuwait on the 18th by air and returned the same day.

AVIATION.

218. ROYAL AIR FORCE. Aircraft paid routine calls on the 18th 22nd and 28th.

219. ANGLO-IRANIAN OIL CO. LTD. On the 22nd and 26th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

220. The Shaikh of Bahrain is camped some seven hours distant from the Kuwait border along the line of the Managish-Riyadh road. Ibn Saud telegraphed to the Shaikh of Kuwait on the 30th of November that he was proceeding immediately to visit the Shaikh of Bahrain. The Shaikh of Kuwait, after taking leave from the Hon'ble the Political Resident, left at 4 a.m on the 1st of December for the Shaikh of Bahrain's camp accompanied by Shaikh Abdulla Salim and every member of the As Subah of any standing. Car loads of sheep and foodstuffs had already been sent to the Shaikh of Bahrain and larger quantities accompanied the Shaikh of Kuwait and his party as gifts for Ibn Saud.

I understand that the meeting has no political

sig/

-2-

significance.

221. From the 23rd the Customs import duty was increased from 5½% to 6½% ad valorem. The object of the increase is to provide additional funds for the Education and Medical Departments. These Departments will share the increased income between them. The increase in duty does not affect British subjects.

222. Exceptionally heavy seas and winds, at times blowing at gale force, have paralysed shipping and made life generally unpleasant.

SAUDI ARABIA.

223. It is learnt on good authority that Ibn Saud will not perform the Haj this year. It is understood that the Amir Saud will represent his father. Ibn Saud's bedouin guards have been given leave until the 29th December, the day of the "Id al Adha".

KUWAIT SULPHUR.

224. Reference paragraph 150 of Kuwait summary No.24 of 1940.

On the 29th of November the Eastern Gulf Company informed the Shaikh that they are taking up the Sulphur Concession.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 225. | Maximum temperature: | 90 |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature: | 52 |

EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 £ (gold sovereign) | = | Rupees | 39-6 |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | = | " | 101-9 |
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars. | = | " | 131-0 |
| 1 Iraq Dinar. | = | " | 12-7 |

(Sd). T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd December, 1941.

SECRET.

No. 20 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th November, 1941.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

198. The Political Agent visited Subahiya during the period under reference in connection with an R.A.F enquiry regarding the possibility of obtaining good water in that neighbourhood. The R.A.F. contemplate laying out landing grounds either at Subahiya or in the Ras al Ardh area.

199. Flight-Lieut. Underwood accompanied by two other R.A.F officers had an interview at the Agency with Mr. L.D. Scott, the Managing Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company on the 13th. The subjects discussed were water supply and the construction of roads.

200. The Political Agent left for Basrah on the 10th to meet Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, C.I.E., the Government of India's Representative on the Middle East War Council. The Political Agent drove from Basra to Umm Qasr on the 12th and then embarked in the Agency launch and in conjunction with Mr. E.B. Wakefield, I.C.S., made a careful examination of the Khor Zobeir, the upper reaches of the Khor Abdullah, Warbah Island and the Khor Subahiya as far as its exit to the sea near the village of the same name.

201. Major C.A.G. Savidge, M.B.E., of the Public Relations Section of the British Consulate Basra visited Kuwait on the 1st of November and returned to Basra on the 3rd of November. Propaganda and kindred subjects were discussed.

202. Major H.B. Humfrey arrived in Kuwait on the 1st. He is buying camels for army purposes and hopes to purchase two hundred in the Kuwait area. He informed me that later it might be necessary to purchase up to 2,000 head in this area. The Political Agent took him to call on the Shaikh who promised to do all in his power to help and at once placed one of his personal followers at Major Humfrey's disposal. This person, Saud bin Imran, will be most useful when the time for bargaining arrives. It was arranged that Saud bin Imran should tour the area to acquaint the Bedouin with the fact that camels were required and that good specimens should be brought to Kuwait at the end of the month. Major Humfrey left for Iraq on the 3rd and proposes to return here at the end of the month. If camels have not been brought in he will make his headquarters here and tour the neighbourhood with Saud bin Imran. Some Nejdi camel dealers have arrived and are buying for Syria.

203. Colonel E.A. Crane, M.C., Deputy Chief Engineer, Line of Communications Basra visited Kuwait on the 4th in connection with the water tank being constructed at Shuwaikh. He was accompanied by Lieut-Col. Sudbury of the I.W.T who asked for and was supplied with estimates for the construction of one hundred ~~and~~ eighty foot "bellums" for use on the Shatt-al-Arab. It is proposed to engine these vessels. The cost will be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 3,000 each with all wood and nails being found by Government.

204. On the 12th Lieut. Wodsingh of the R.I.A.S.C arrived in Kuwait in charge of a convoy of two lorries bringing two or three hundred feet of pipe and a few valves for the Shuwaikh tank. Captain P.S. Visvanath, I.M.S was in medical charge of the party which returned to Basra on the 14th.

205. Mr. Donald M. Knight, Deacon in charge of the Chaplaincy of Basra arrived, somewhat unexpectedly, by air on the 4th and returned to Basra the same day.



KUWAIT/

-2-

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

206. The Company are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain equipment, and their operations are naturally being somewhat restricted.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

207. The Indian Pearl Market is said to be very good this year. The prices of poor and medium quality pearls being as much as a hundred per cent above last year's prices, while the increase in price of first grade pearls is about thirty per cent. First grade pearls are normally marketed in Europe and America. Europe is not at present interested in pearls and America is inaccessable, hence the comparatively small increase in price in this grade.

208. Complaints have been received about the inadequacy of the quantities of certain commodities, the export of which from India is restricted, allowed to dhow captains for consumption during voyages. It was recently reported that ~~only~~ six pounds of tea were all that local officials at Calicut would allow a dhow with a crew of twenty five for the voyage to Kuwait. At this time of the year this voyage may take 60 days.

209. Wonderment was recently expressed by a wealthy merchant in the course of conversation at the Agency at the freedom with which goods can be exported to Iraq in transit to Turkey while the export of the same goods to friendly countries, such as Kuwait is prohibited. It is said that the export of sail cloth has been prohibited to Persian Gulf ports but may still be exported to Turkey. There are complaints about the alleged restriction on the export of wheat from India while, curiously enough, flour, so it is reported, may be exported freely.

SAUDI ARABIA.

210. Lieut-Colonel G. de Gaury, M.C., is reported to have arrived at Riyadh on the 12th and after conversations with Ibn Saud returned to Jedda.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

211. Royal Air Force aeroplanes paid routine calls on the 4th, 8th and 13th.

METEOROLOGICAL.

212. Maximum temperature: 92
Minimum temperature: 57

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 213. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £. 1/- (gold) | Rupees. | 40/- |
| | 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars... | " | 131/- |
| | 100 Saudi Rials. ... | " | 106/- |
| | 1/- Iraqi Dinar. ... | " | 12/12. |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major.

17th November, 1941.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET.

No. 19 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st October, 1941.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

187. The Political Agent left on tour by launch on the 28th and returned on the 30th.

188. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 25th.

189. On the 22nd Colonel F.H. Skinner, G.S.O. I of L of C. Basra arrived and left the same day.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

190. Reference paragraph 174 of Kuwait summary No. 18 of 194_.

Sir John Ward arrived by air on the 22nd and left immediately with Lady Ward.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

Drilling operations are being continued at Burgan and the "casing" of well No. 6 will probably be commenced in the first week of November.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

192. Royal Air Force planes visited Kuwait on the 17th, 25th and 31st on routine calls.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

193. There have been no outstanding events during the period under review. Ship building is continuing and work is progressing on the "Booms" which are being built to augment the Water Company's fleet with a view to making water shortages here unlikely next summer.

SAUDI ARABIA.

194. Heavy rain is reported to have fallen in the Saudi Arabian desert from 150 to 200 miles from Kuwait and the Bedouin have all left the immediate vicinity of the town.

IRAQ.

195. The change of Government in Iraq has excited little interest. The general feeling is that relations with Iraq will be cordial so long as British ~~Ex~~ Troops are in occupation of the country and it is therefore of no particular importance what particular political faction is in office.

METEOROLOGICAL.

196. Maximum temperature: 101
Minimum temperature: 64

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 197. | | |
|---|---|---|
| £.1/- (gold) | - | Rs. 43/- |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | - | Rs. 104/- |
| 100 Maria Thereasa Dollars. | | Rs. 128/- |
| 1/- Iraqi Dinar... | | Rs. 12/11. |

3rd November, 1941.



Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET.

No. 18 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th October, 1941.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

170. Reference paragraph 154 of Kuwait summary No.17 of 1941.

The Political Agent returned from Basra by road on the 2nd.

171. On the 8th Mr. E.B. Wakefield, I.C.S., Officer on Special Duty, Kuwait, arrived from Basra by road.

173. The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 9th, Hagaiga and Safwan on the 12th, and Magwa and Burgan on the 14th.

BRITISH NON-OFFICIALS.

174. On the 7th Sir John Ward, Director of Basra Port accompanied by Lady Ward, arrived here by 'plane. He returned to Basra alone the same day.

175. On the 14th Mr. F.H. Johnson, Manager of the Khorramshahr Branch of the Imperial Bank of Iran arrived here from Basra to negotiate with His Highness the Shaikh with a view to opening a branch. He left well pleased with the result of his audience with the Ruler and his conversations with local business men.

Extract for Bank File.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

176. Ref. para 162 of Kuwait summary No. 17 of 1941.

Mr. T.E. Patrick left for Basra on the 8th en route to the United States of America via India.

177. Ref. para 131 of summary No. 15 of 1941.

Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent, returned from leave on the 10th.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

178. On the 11th an aircraft of the Royal Air Force paid a routine call and left for Shaibah the same day.

LOCAL PERSONAGES.

179. Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir as Subah who is Chief Judge and Director of Education is leaving for Syria after the "Id" on leave on medical certificate. His mother and grandmother were mentally afflicted and he is on the verge of a breakdown due to overwork.



Local/

305
308

-2-

LOCAL INTERESTS.

180. A considerable number of persons in Kuwait including members of the As Subah regularly listen to the Bari and Berlin broadcasts and it is regrettable but unfortunately true that some of them believe them.

181. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah has not kept the fast as carefully as is incumbent on a strict Muslim. He was therefore more mentally active than the Ruler when a disagreement occurred between the Ruler and his chief guide and collector of "Zakat" - one Nazzal. The story of the quarrel is very complicated but the result seems to be that Nazzal has left the Ruler's service after many years loyal and profitable service, the collection of "Zakat" is said to be worth Rupees 3,000 a year to the collector, and taken service with Shaikh Abdulla as Salim's slave brother Fahad at a wage of Rupees 80/- a month. Fahad as Salim is said to be about to pay Shaikh Hamad of Bahrain a visit. Nazzal will almost certainly return to Shaikh Ahmad when regular meals have restored his sense of proportion.

SAUDI ARABIA.

182. Nothing very much is reported to be happening in Saudi Arabia beyond a little street widening in Hofuf. Ibn Saud is living quietly at Riyadh during the Ramadhan.

183. It seems that Ibn Saud granted a private audience to some of the Dhafir Shaikhs just before the 'Id' at which he gave his views on the Germans and Italians. He is reported to have said "Woe to us Arabs if Hitler wins" and to have expressed the view that in the event of England winning the Arabs' condition after the war would be much as it is at present, as England had never shown any desire to take their lands from them.

Ibn Saud stated according to our informant, a man of some standing, that just before the Iraq trouble he had received a visit from Naji al Suwaidi who urged him to join forces with Iraq and that he had rejected these advances and ordered Suwaidi to remove himself without delay. It

seems/

306
(309)

-3-

seems that Ibn Saud does not discuss the war in public.

IRAQ.

184. It is rumoured here that Jamil Madfai's resignation was due to the Ambassador demanding that certain high posts in Iraq should be taken over by British officials and the Military authorities insisting on the disbandment of the Iraq army or their whole-hearted cooperation.

METEOROLOGICAL.

185. Maximum temperature: 101
Minimum temperature: 51

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 186. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £.1/- Sterling gold ... | Rupees. | 41- 4 |
| | 100 Maria Theresa dollars. | " | 125- 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials. ... | " | 99- 0 |
| | £.1/- Iraqi Dinar. ... | " | 12- 7 |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

17th October, 1941.

P.A 307

**SECRET.** (310) M.O. 26/1

EXTERNAL Political Department.

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | REGISTER NO. |
|---|---|
| | P. Ext. 8029/41. Ext. 8111/41. Ext. 8290/41. |

| Telegram / Letter from | 1942. | Initials. | SUBJECT. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Under Secretary ... ... | 16 - 1 | RA | Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos. 13 and 14 (July) and No. 17 (16th to 30th September). |
| Secretary of State ... ... | | | |
| ..........Committee ... | 19 | | |
| Under Secretary ... ... | | | |
| Secretary of State ... .. | | | |



FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT ONLY.

The termination of the Syrian campaign and Germany's attack on Russia both had a good effect on public opinion in Koweit, which should be strengthened by the recent Russian advances. There was a general belief that the Turks would do nothing to help Great Britain, and a strong feeling that a firm line should be taken in Iraq and Basra occupied permanently, if necessary. At the beginning of Summary 14, Colonel Dickson analyses the causes of anti-British feeling in Koweit.

Fierce retribution followed attempts by the servants of Sheikhs from the Muntafiq visiting Koweit to do a deal in rifles.

There was a growing shortage of silver in Koweit, and an influx of silver from Iraq was feared.

The inception of the Civil Requirements Programme caused some panic, and prices rose at the beginning of July.

Izzat Jaffer, the Sheikh's private secretary, returned to Koweit on the 10th July with the

/concurrence

(11844) Wt.29201/P.295 2,000 9/39 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp.685

concurrence of the Political Resident. He took up his residence at the palace, where the Sheikh promised to keep a strict eye on him. The Sheikh reacted very well to the proposal to build a port at Um Qasr, merely stipulating that it should not be handed over to the Iraqis at the end of the war, but should be dismantled.

| Whether this constitutes a very good reaction is a matter of opinion.

In order to check smuggling, cars and lorries arriving in Koweit without Zubair customs permits were ordered to be confiscated.

Oil well No. B.G.7, which promised to be as good as the others, was to be finished by the end of July.

The Customs Collector at Basra put out a feeler, at the end of July, about the exchange of lorry traffic with Koweit.

By the end of September Major Hickinbotham had taken charge as Political Agent. There was a shortage of water, partly due to the lack of boats; orders had been given for the building of eight more. It was reported that arms of good German manufacture were reaching Iraq from Persia. Para. 165 indicates a bad lack of liaison on the part of the military authorities.

M. Bolgers.
8/1

| Yes. The military are very odd. They do not seem to be able to grasp the idea that there is a Pol. Resident & Pol. Agents in the different states.
RH

For information.

Col. Dickson's two reports for July, though largely out of date, are still worth reading.

E.W.R. Lumby.
15.1.42.

Col. Dickson's reflections on the widespread anti-British feeling among Arabs (para 113) are interesting.

As regards the shortage of water in Koweit, the Oil Company are now engaged in drilling for water with good prospects of success and it will be a great blessing for Koweit if it is assured of a good supply of water on the spot, instead of having to import it by sea.

R.T. Peel
16/1

[illegible] 21/1 [illegible] 21/1

[illegible] 22.1.

SECRET.

No. 17 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th September, 1941.

--

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

153. The Political Agent called officially on His Highness the Ruler on the 18th. The Ruler returned the call the same morning.

The Ruler dined at the Agency on Saturday the 20th. Numerous private calls were exchanged with His Highness during the period under report. In future no record of purely private calls will be maintained.

154. On the 29th the Political Agent left for Basra by sea in the Agency launch "Hugh Biscoe". A strong north wind was blowing and the sea was rough but the journey was accomplished without untoward incident. Unfortunately the strong wind and sea had a delaying effect on the launch so that a night was spent on the Shatt-al-Arab below Abadan Reach tied up to the boom "Al Dhow" captained by Abdul Wahab al Qitami. Basra could have been reached by 8 p.m., but there was no hurry and being the Ramadhan the crew were hungry by sunset. The Political Agent visited Abdul Aziz as Saqar and dined with him.

Basra was reached by 9 a.m on the 30th and the Customs officials and Port authorities were most courteous.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

155. Reference paragraph 145 of Kuwait summary No.16 of 1941.

The Kuwait Oil Company picked up the damaged aircraft and placed it on a lorry and drove it to Shaibah. The work was quickly and efficiently done under the personal supervision of Mr. T.E. Patrick, the Acting General Manager of the Company.

156. Aircraft from Shaibah visited Kuwait on the 18th, 22nd, 23rd and 27th.

LOCAL PERSONAGES.

157. The Political Agent dined with Shaikh Abdulla Jabir on the 19th. Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, called on him on the 20th the day after his (Shaikh Abdulla Salim's) return from ~~the~~ Falaicha Island. The Political Agent returned the call the following day.



Local/

309
(312)

-2-

LOCAL INTERESTS.

Not yet received

158. Reference paragraph 139 of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1937.

A further water shortage has occurred partly owing to a shortage of boats, and partly to reluctance on the part of the nakhudas to contribute to the clerk of the Medical Officer at Fao to the extent to which he considers reasonable. The matter has been discussed with the Ruler and others, and His Highness has given orders for the construction of eight new boats and the Political Agent intends to visit Fao and call upon the Medical Officer during his present visit to Basra.

159. It was rumoured in the town that Shaikh Fahad as Salim and the Director of Customs were contemplating the purchase of arms and ammunition from the Basra Wilayat. The rumour has little or no foundation.

160. His Highness the Ruler sent the customary telegraphic greetings to King Ibn Saud and his Heir Apparent on the commencement of the Ramadhan fast.

Presumably sold by deserters from the Persian army.

161. Information received here from various sources indicates that the arms reaching Iraq from Iran are of good quality and of German manufacture. It is reported that the Diwaniyah, Rumaitha, Samawa, and Upper Muntafik areas are in the market for rifles while the Amara and Qurna tribes and the Hamar Lake area had as many as they wanted. It was further reported that the Upper Euphrates people had obtained a quantity of arms as a result of the Habbaniya operations.

OIL MATTERS.

162. Mr. Robert Kuss arrived here on the 20th to relieve Mr. T.E. Patrick as Principal Drilling Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company. The Chief Local Representative of the Company took him to call on the Ruler on the 24th.

163. Major F. Holmes, who is at present in England, has written to the Ruler to the effect that he is most anxious to return to Kuwait but the difficulties are too great at present.

164. Mr. F. Ohliger of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company arrived here on the 26th by land. He dined at the Agency the same night and left for Basra the next morning. He

is/

-3-

is reported to have said in conversation that King Ibn Saud proposed to meet Oil Company representatives immediately after the Ramadhan at Jedda.

165. Lines of Communications Headquarters, Basra, wrote direct to the Kuwait Oil Company and asked them to drill for water at Umm Qasr and Samnan. The Company have regretted their inability to comply with the request. It seems a pity that Headquarters Lines of Communications do not make use of the services of the Political Agent in cases of this sort. The result might have been different.

SAUDI AFFAIRS.

166. Numerous Shaikhs of varying importance and some of no importance at all have visited Kuwait recently. They are mostly occupied with the Ramadhan.

167. Reference paragraph 148 of Kuwait summary No. 16 of 1941.

See Bahrain Summaries.

The next registered mail from Riyadh was wrapped up in the "Deutsche Allgemaine Zeitung" of June 15th, 1941. Riyadh seems to have plenty of surplus German newspaper.

168. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 110 |
| Minimum temperature: | 69. |

169. EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| £.1/- Sterling (gold) | Rupees. | 37- 5 |
| 100 Maria Theresa dollars. | " | 119- 0 |
| 100 Saudi Rials. | " | 96- 7 |
| £.1/- Iraqi Dinar. | " | 12-11. |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd October, 1941.

SECRET.

No. 14 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st July, 1941.

113. POLITICAL.

(a) On the night of 14th July the Iraq Regent broadcast a speech from Baghdad giving the story of Rashid Ali's activities since he came into power in April, 1940, and explained step by step all the evils he had brought on the country. He also brought out how he (the Regent) had defended the Iraq Constitution with all the power at his command until forced by Rashid Ali to leave the country. He accused Rashid Ali of being not only a mere self seeking adventurer but a man who had sold his country for personal gain to Nazi intriguers. This was the man, he said, who had persuaded the youth of Iraq to dishonour their country's plighted word to England and had led them to fight their best friend etc. etc.

This broadcast was well received in Kuwait though cynics suggested that the Regent might do better if he and his Government acted more energetically against the pro Nazis of Iraq and talked less. The above in fact might be called the sum total of Kuwait's reaction to Regent Abdul 'Illah's first attempt at a public propaganda broadcast.

The full text of the Regent's speech was received by newspaper a week later and when the public had digested it they voted it a real good effort and wished him all the luck he deserved.

The Shaikh of Kuwait's sympathies are of course all with the Regent, and he realises more than any one else what a difficult task lies before him.

(b) Kuwait Nazi sympathisers are lying very low these days, and as mentioned in a previous report the worst of them have left the country or are in exile. All of them are known to His Highness the Ruler and to this Agency and that is half the battle. The worst that those who remain can do is to seize upon any piece of doubtful war news and twist it into an exaggerated victory for the Nazis. They then manage by very subtle means to arrange for its spread among the ignorant populace of the town. The listening to Berlin or Rome broadcasts is of course an offence. His Highness recently in public Mijliss took the opportunity of saying that he could not for the life of him understand why Kuwait should have any Nazi sympathizers at all. It was quite beyond him seeing that the whole world knew how brutally the Germans seized every country it could lay hands on, exploited it for their own benefit, treated the people with supreme cruelty, and brought utter misery on them. How could anyone in his senses in Kuwait not see this, said the Shaikh, yet how was it that some of them desired a Nazi victory. Further more that the worst local Nazi well wishers/were found among the richest merchants and those to whom God had given all that was desirable on this earth. Nor was life in Kuwait bad for them with its good climate, its freedom from tyranny and its minimum of taxation. Surely such persons ranged themselves against God himself and were fighting against the Deity. Indeed they were God's enemies in every sense of the word.

As His Highness again expressed wonder at the phenomenon a junior member of the Al Sabah asked if he could speak and when given leave said "Your Highness, we have no real Nazis in the town of Kuwait but we have many persons who are anti-English and because Your Highness and all the Al Sabah are pro-British and value their connection with England, and moreover desire to see England completely victorious in the

war/

/actu

war, therefore these same persons hate us, ~~the Shaikh's House~~ the Ruling House, and have ranged themselves in the opposite camp from sheer malice.

/actually

This/is not a bad summing up of the situation in Kuwait today.

It may be asked why then are some of the most intelligent and wealthy of Kuwait's citizens anti-English. The answer is not far to seek and really dates back to

(i) British policy in Palestine.
(ii) The wave of Arab nationalism which has of recent years (and partly as a result of (i)) run through the northern Arab world.
(iii) The feeling engendered among the young and student classes that there can be no hope for pan Arabism so long as Great Britain tries to keep individual Arab States in so called thraldom.

Unfortunately the Germans from the very beginning and with great astuteness took full advantage of the resentment felt over Palestine and working through such organizations as the "Muthanna" and other equally chauvinistic clubs having branches all over the Middle East, have brought about a far more widespread dislike for England, especially amongst the Arab intelligensia, than originally existed. Fortunately for everybody the agricultural classes everywhere and of course the Badawin or nomad population of Arabia proper, still remain on our side, owing to the eternal suspicion they have for the oppressor Effendi classes. Hence the strength of Bin Saud and the various Emirates scattered round the Coast of Arabia, who if they find themselves in danger from local nationalist trouble makers call in their Badawin to help them out.

The above digression on well known phenomena it is hoped will be pardoned, and are only reproduced because in a recent talk with the Shaikh of Kuwait the latter discussed with the writer the prevailing anti-British feeling among Arabs, and the skill with which the Nazis had worked it up everywhere.

(c) The chief item of interest during the latter part of the period under review was the resuscitation of the proposal to build a port in the vicinity of UM QASR which lies in the extreme North East corner of Kuwait State. This time, however, the sponsors of the scheme are the British Military Authorities in Iraq and not the Iraq Government.

On 31st July a telegram was received from the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf instructing the Political Agent to convey to His Highness the Shaikh the wishes of His Majesty's Government and the proposals contemplated. These visualized (a) The building of a purely military port near UM QASR.

(b) The improvement of existing landing and harbour facilities at Kuwait, also under the aegis of the British Military Authorities.

His Highness reacted very well merely stipulating that at the end of hostilities the UM QASR port should be dismantled and not be handed over to the Iraq Government, as the latter procedure would immediately place Kuwait in danger not to speak of the challenge to her territorial water rights which would inevitably follow.

114. HIS HIGHNESS THE SHAIKH.

(a) The Shaikh called at the Agency on 17th, 27th and 30th, while the Political Agent called on His Highness on the 19th, 28th and 31st July.

(b)/

313
(316)



(b) His Highness dined at the Agency on 25th and the Political Agent dined at Dasman on 29th.

(c) On 24th July His Highness intimated verbally to the Political Agent that owing to the improved Military situation in Iraq and Syria he had authorized the relighting of streets throughout the night as from 25th and that he had arranged suitable machinery to switch off "all power" at a moments notice if necessary.

(d) On 30th July the Shaikh complained by letter that fresh dates and fruits from his gardens on the Shatt al Arab were not allowed to be sent to Kuwait for his families consumption through the obstructionist attitude of the Date Board. He complained that he had experienced the same trouble last year. Representations were at once made by telegram to Judge Lloyd President Date Board, Basra.

(e) On the 30th the Shaikh also by letter requested that Cable and Wireless Ltd be asked whether it would be possible for them to accept and deliver telegrams in Arabic, especially to such countries as Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Egypt. He represented that in a very Arab Town like Kuwait it was difficult for merchants to send telegrams in English, or translate same if delivered in English. His Highness suggested the appointment of an office interpreter by Cable and Wireless Ltd. A copy of His Highness' letter was duly passed to Cable and Wireless Ltd.

*This has been satisfactorily settled.*

(f) On the 30th the Shaikh verbally enquired whether the Ambassador Baghdad had replied to this Agency's enquiry asking that the Iraq Government be asked to facilitate exchange of land mails between Basra and Kuwait. The matter was again referred to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf by telegram.

(g) On the 31st His Highness verbally reported the attempted sale of two British Army tents in Kuwait (outer fly only) by Iraqis who had come down by car. The tents were confiscated pending enquiry from Army Authorities Basra.

(h) On 31st His Highness also verbally reported that he had given orders that if any car or lorry came down to Kuwait without being in possession of a Zubair Customs permit the same was to be confiscated as it could be assumed that such cars had come down to engage in smuggling contraband into Iraq. This contribution on the part of His Highness to check smuggling should please the Iraq authorities.

115. SHAIKH ABDULLA SALIM.

This personage left for Syria on 18th to undergo an "X" ray examination at Damascus (see paragraph 100 of Kuwait summary No.13 of 1941).

116. ROYAL NAVY.

On the 25th July 10-30 A.M H.M.S. "FALMOUTH" Commander W. James RN, arrived at Kuwait for what was hoped to be a several days visit. The Political Agent went on board and arranged for a luncheon party at the Agency and for an informal call to be made on His Highness the next day. Unfortunately during the night H.M.S. "Falmouth" received orders to sail and she left at once.

On 25th July a telegram was received from the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf intimating that H.M.S. "INVESTIGATOR" would shortly start a survey of the KHOR ABDULLA estuary.

117. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY LIMITED.

Mr. Scott, General Superintendent of the Oil Company paid a routine call on the Shaikh on the 24th and a farewell call on

29th/

29th previous to his departure for India on leave. On both occasions he was accompanied by the Political Agent (in his capacity as Chief Local Representative).

On the first visit Mr. Scott reported that

(a) Oil well No. B.G.7 would definitely be finished by 31st July, and "cellar" started immediately afterwards of B.G.8.

(b) That the Resident Geologist Mr. Sass would leave for United States of America on 1st August.

(c) That Drilling Superintendent Mr. Patrick would leave on 15th October for United States of America.

(d) That he (Mr. Scott) would depart for India on 2 months leave on 5th August.

Discussing the Japanese agression in French Indo-China, the Shaikh smilingly quoted the Badawin proverb "When the camel is down every one will out with their knives to cut pieces off it".

The Shaikh stated that we had just entered the "MIRZIM" season, and quoted another proverb which said that "if 'Mirzim' enters with a 'Shamal' then August will remain cool till 'Suhail' (Canopus) appears". Let us hope the proverb does not play false, as July has been a particularly unpleasant month.

118. IRAQI CUSTOMS.

On 30th July Mr. Ringrow Customs Collector Basra addressed a letter to the Agency in which he proposed that his department would favourably view an exchange of lorry traffic with Kuwait for the carriage of local produce etc,

if (a) Kuwait licenced lorries carried proper manifests for all goods carried, used the Safwan - Zubair road and paid duty at Zubair.

(b) Basra lorries reciprocating were exempted from payment of the so called Kuwait Road Tax of Rs. 6/- for each journey.

The matter was referred to His Highness the Shaikh. One understands that the reply which he is preparing will take the following form:

Regarding (a) He will guarantee that all properly licenced Kuwait lorries will carry manifests, and will proceed as directed to Zubair, and regarding (b) the tax of Rs. 6/- was part of the Kuwait- Zubair Transport Service road monopoly and was taken from every Kuwait car using the Basra road whether private or public. So exception could not be made in favour of Iraqi lorries. The tax was used on repairing the Kuwait - Zubair stretch of road.

The above "good will" feeler is a move in the right direction.

119. AMERICAN MISSION.

A telegram was received on 24th July saying that Dr. Mordyke (Senior) of Amara had died suddenly and would be buried the same evening at Basra. The American Mission was duly notified and Revd. De Jong of Kuwait left at noon to attend the funeral.

120. LOCAL NEWS.

(a) On the 16th July a runaway negro slave from the Trucial Coast took refuge in the Agency. His master he said was in Kuwait and was after him. The man was persuaded to go and seek the Shaikh's justice. The latter passed orders that if the slave

did/

did not want to return with his master, he need not do so. That settled the matter.

(b) On the 16th Mr. Scott of the Kuwait Oil Co. reported that one of his Drillers had been accused by a Rig cooli of striking him and that the matter had reached His Highness' ears. The Political Agent saw the Shaikh and got the matter amicably settled by the usual underground method of "saving peoples faces" all round. His Highness was most helpful, though placed in a somewhat difficult position, as the cooli was a member of a well known family.

(c) On the 19th Mr. E. Fernandez Agent of Gray Mackenzie left for India on 3 months leave. He has been relieved by a Mr. Monteiro.

(d) On the 18th Mr. Jones of British Airways left for Basra after closing down his office. The two buoys which he fixed in position at Shuwaikh in case of emergency remain in situ.

(e) On the 27th the motor launch presented to the Royal Navy left for Basra via Fao under the usual good office letters from the Agency. The launch reached Basra safely and was duly handed over to the Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf. The latter in a very nice letter (which was very much appreciated by His Highness) thanked him for his handsome gift and promised to bring the matter to the Special notice of the Commander-in-Chief East Indies Station.

(f) On the 25th it was reported, though not confirmed, that Abdulla Saqar, Kuwait's premier agitator who fled to Iran after the collapse of Rashid Ali's recent movement, had now transferred himself to Turkey.

121. SAUDI ARABIA.

An interesting case and one which the enemies of the Shaikh at once seized upon to spread the story that H.M King Bin Saud and Shaikh Ahmad of Kuwait were at loggerheads, occurred on 20th July. The facts were as follows: A Nejdi merchant was taking a lorry full of merchandise to Riyadh among which were two bales of piece goods. The owner in taking out his manifest had declared that each bale contained 30 rolls of cloth when in reality there were 100 rolls in each bale. In other words the merchant hoped to get through the Saudi Customs barriers at Jariya and pay duty only on 60 rolls of cloth. The remaining 140 rolls would not only be smuggled but his manifest would bear Ali al Khalifah's signature, and if found out it would look as if the latter were in collusion. The Nejdi merchant's deception was found out at the main gate. He was reported to Ali al Khalifah and the latter confiscated both the bales and the 200 rolls of cloth contained in same.

122. KUWAIT'S MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS PROGRAMME.

This was obtained from merchants through His Highness by 28th July for September, 1941, and telegraphed to Government of India on the 31st as per latter's instructions.

123. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 118 |
| Minimum temperature: | 92. |

The Magwa Oil camp temperatures were phenominally high during the latter half of July, the highest being 122 F. The nights however were cool the minimum being 82 F - a variation of 40 in the 24 hours.

Sd. H.R.P. DICKSON. Lieut-Col
Political Agent, Kuwait.

4th August, 1941.

SECRET.

No. 13 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th July, 1941.

98. POLITICAL.

The outbreak of war between Germany and Russia still forms the chief topic of conversation among the people who from the first have looked upon it as direct Divine intervention in favour of Great Britain. The first news was enthusiastically welcomed by His Highness the Shaikh and the majority of the people of Kuwait. After a week of fighting and owing to paucity of news from the front, there was a tendency to think that the Germans were going to have a "walk over". This feeling was encouraged by the usual clever lying broadcasts in Arabic emanating from Berlin. The inability of the Germans to make proper progress or achieve anything decisive since has definitely caused a change of feeling and local experts are now busy reorienting their ideas. The belief everywhere as one writes is that the battle is going to end in such heavy losses for both sides that the winner will be left prostrate. A small minority which includes the Ruler believe that Russia will definitely win.

The termination of the Syrian campaign with the occupation of Beyrout, and the surrender of the French Army has had the best possible tonic effect in Kuwait, and according to His Highness the Shaikh, in Iraq also.

Turkey's attitude has been rousing a good deal of interest locally, and thinking persons have been asking why her broadcasts are less pro-British than formerly. There is a tendency among those holding pro-British views to think that she should not be trusted over much by His Majesty's Government these days. They argue that the Turks are orientals after all, and in their fight against the British during last war, they lost a vast number of men killed. This they will not forget in a hurry, as the "eye for eye" doctrine plays a deep part in their lives. In other words the belief is growing that the Turks intend doing nothing to help Great Britain in the war. This her admirers deplore as they see disaster for Turkey in the long run if she does not take her courage between her two hands and act now. These same admirers stoutly deny that Turkey will ever play the "strike in the back" game which Italy played with France. Those sort of cowardly tactics have no place in the Turks make up, they say. This is probably true. There are quite a number of pro-Turks in Kuwait and one very popular Turkish family.

Many leading citizens of Kuwait still advocate the permanent occupation of Basra by the British as being the best form of insurance that Iraq does not once again rise and bite the hand of her benefactor. These men who have had long and direct experience of the Iraq townspeople and tribes are never tired of preaching how inherently bad both are, especially the former, and opine that nothing but the strong arm of an absolute monarch (like Bin Saud) or a powerful army of occupation of some outside power will ever keep down the people of Iraq. They are full of quotations of Great Islamic leaders from the Prophet downwards in support of their theories. Today, they say, Great Britain obviously does not want to take over Iraq again, but she can take over Basra so as to prevent future trouble for the unfortunate masses of Iraq and herself. Moreover it is the one thing that the present Regent in Iraq would welcome, as it would mean safety for himself and stability for the country.



His Highness the Shaikh who has many friends and visitors from/

from Iraq, always coming and going and has a shrewd idea of what is happening there from day today, is of opinion that the British policy of non-interference in the internal administration of Iraq today is a mistake, and will lead to trouble. He maintains that for the moment the people of Iraq are dazed with the rapid move of recent events, but that as soon as they recover they will, in their perverse way, spread the story round that the English are afraid to make their influence felt, and the followers of Rashid Ali will raise their heads once more. That these are still very much alive in Iraq, and especially in the Army, the Shaikh is very well aware.

Other points which the Shaikh advocates as being worthy of attention are the following:-

Sir K. Cornwallis has seen to this.

(a) He urges closer touch with and more sympathetic treatment of the tribes on the British Lines of Communication, especially those round Amara and Nasriyeh. To this end he is all for the appointment during the war period of British Political Officers in those areas with wide powers. The tribes of these areas, and especially the Muntafiq, are very pro-British, and have looked upon this second coming of a British Army to Iraq as a sort of Heaven sent blessing which may bring release from the Effendi tyranny of the last 20 years, but if we have no one working among them to keep them pro-British and if His Majesty's Government cold shoulders the friendly advances of their Shaikhs by an attitude of "we have no concern with you, and you have got to realise that you must remain under your old rulers" then, says the Shaikh, you are going to drive them directly into Rashid Ali's camp in the shortest possible time, he will see to that.

Gen. Nuri contemplates an army of some 25,000 men. The F.O. have recently suggested that the Iraqi Govt. should be advised to abolish conscription.

(b) He urges that the Iraq Government abolish conscription throughout the country and reduce its standing army by half.

(c) He deprecates the repeated reiterations of certain London politicians that the people of Iraq are really Britain's friends and have only been led astray by a small pro-Nazi group. This is not so (says the Shaikh), and such statements appear to be designed merely to counter what Dr. Goebbles may have to say on the matter. England should adopt a strong silent line in Iraq and avoid any attempt to lay down what the future policy will be. "Keep them guessing", advises the Shaikh.

The news which filters through of the "strength" shown by the present Mutassarif Basra in dealing with anti-British elements has been well received. The Kuwait public only hope that he will instruct his frontier guards at Safwan not to start their old tricks of sending armed parties into Kuwait territory (as was such a popular game under the old regime) in search of so called smugglers. One mentions this as a recent report has it that an Iraqi armed car penetrated 40 miles into Kuwait and was seen close to the Liyah ridge.

During the fortnight under review, Kuwait has had rather an embarrassing number of visitors in the shape of Shaikhs from the Muntafiq (Euphrates). Many of them called at the Agency and while expressing loyalty to the British Government and hatred of Rashid Ali urged that British Political Advisors be sent them. They had had enough of Arab Mutassarifs they said. They added that they were aware that efforts had been made to put down the murder of Captain Jeffries to them, and that they were said to be very anti-British. This was a lie as it was members of the Arab Army of Rashid Ali who committed the murder, and forsooth it took place in Nasriyeh Town, not in their tribal country.

Some of the above gentry, or rather two of their servants attempted to do a deal in rifles whilst in Kuwait but the Shaikh was too quick for them. Apparently eleven rifles in all were purchased from Nejdi merchants . . . . . . . .

318
(321)

-3-

merchants in the town and were smuggled over the city wall and deposited in four "sarifas" (mat huts) and two tents in the Shamiyeh (Badawin suburb) awaiting the departure of the Iraqis. Shaikh Ali al Khalifah (Governor of the Town) got wind of the transaction, had a search made of some 400 Sarifas and discovered the rifles. The owners of the tents and sarifas in which the rifles were found were at once publicly flogged; their homes burnt to the ground and further beatings inflicted till the names of the depositors were obtained. These in turn were beaten till the sellers names were given. The latter having received proper castigation were cast into prison together with the two Iraqis who bought the rifles on the charge of attempting to evade the Kuwait Arms Laws, which shortly are as follows:

(a) All rifles in the town must be registered.
(b) No Townsman may sell a rifle to a tribesman without the Shaikh's written permit.

(c) No Kuwait Townsman or tribesman may sell a rifle to any Iraqi, or Saudi Arabian subject, in any circumstances whatso ever.

(d) Rifles may be bought in Saudi Arabia and brought to Kuwait by a Kuwaiti tribesman but must be at once registered with the Governor of the Town.

(e) No rifle may be imported from oversea without a British Government permit.

(f) Kuwait Badawin among themselves may buy and sell rifles, but must notify the authorities of the transaction.

(g) Any traveller bringing his rifle to Kuwait must deposit same with the guard at the main gate before he enters the City.

The laws have been made as strict as they are to enable the Shaikh to keep his treaty obligations with His Majesty's Government and incidentally to give him powder and shot with which to counter the frivolous accusations of allowing "gun running" into Iraq which are made almost annually by the Iraq Government.

99. HIS HIGHNESS THE SHAIKH.

The Shaikh called informally on the Agency on 6th and 12th July and return calls were made on 8th and 15th July respectively. These apart from two routine calls made on the Shaikh by the General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd who was accompanied by the Political Agent.
These weekly meetings with the Ruler serve a very useful purpose and enable informal exchange of views to take place on various matters connected with the State, its foreign relations and the various problems which from time to time are raised by the Government of India and the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf - example the recent "Civil Requirements Programme", "Navicerts" etc.
It is a curious fact and rather natural perhaps, but the Shaikh dislikes "bombshells" thrown at him in the form of official letters proposing action on some scheme or other. He far prefers that the Political Agent come and discuss the proposal first and then follow it up by letter. Hence the weekly exchange of visits.
On the 8th July the Shaikh intimated to His Majesty's Government that he desired to present his 40 H.P. Thornycroft motor launch "WAIYIF" to the Senior Naval Officer Persian Gulf as a contribution towards the general war effort. The gift was gratefully accepted by His Majesty's Government and a letter of thanks and appreciation was duly addressed to His Highness/

319
(322)

-4-

Highness. Subsequently both London and Bahrain broadcast in Arabic details of the gift and His Majesty's Government's and Senior Naval Officer's appreciative remarks, which gratified His Highness greatly.

100. SHAIKH ABDULLA SALIM.

This personage, the President of the State Mijliss or Council, returned from his holiday on Falaika island on 10th having been absent over six weeks. He called on the Agency on the 18th July and a return call was paid the same day. Shaikh Abdulla though looking extremely well said that he proposed shortly going to Syria to undergo an X ray examination for stone in the kidney in accordance with Doctors orders. He complained of occasional pain and said that although he had passed four large "stones" some time back, one stone remained to be dealt with.

The Political Agent met Shaikhs Ali bin Jassim al Thani, brother of the Ruler of Qatar in Shaikh Abdulla's Mijliss (see later).

101. SHORTAGE OF SILVER.

For some time silver rupees have been growing more and more scarce in Kuwait, and it is understood that both the Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd and Cables and Wireless Ltd are making arrangements to import Rupees in bulk in case the situation gets worse.

The leading Arab banker Abdur Rahman bin Bahar visited the Agency on 5th July at the instance of His Highness to discuss the matter. He put the shortage down to:

(a) The return to India by merchants of about 3 lacs of Queen Victoria rupees which have been recalled by Government of India (time limit 30th September).

(b) The ban on the export of silver rupees from India.

(c) The underground buying of gold from Saudi Arabia by Kuwait merchants, the gold being paid for in rupees and sold to the Banks in Basra.

Bin Bahar who has always supplied the Agency with its monthly requirements of silver on presentation of a cheque on India, said he must in future charge Rs. 80/- on cheque of Rs. 1000/- and could only cash Rs.10/- note at a discount of 12 annas and a Rs. 100/- note at Rs. 8.

It was arranged as a temporary expedient to borrow any cash required by the Agency from Bin Bahar and repay by cash on receipt from India of the necessary rupees. In the meantime application has been made to Government of India for Rs. 10,000/- to be sent this Agency each quarter.

The local public are feeling the shortage acutely and it is feared that there may be an influx of Iraqi silver into the State.

102. CIVIL REQUIREMENTS PROGRAMME.

After the war news the chief topic of conversation in Kuwait during early July has been Government of India's war measur order laying down that Kuwait (as well as other Gulf ports) should submit a monthly programme of its minimum essential requirements under all heads, so that shipping space could be allotted in India (see Government of India's tlegram No.3197 of June 28th).

3713/41
4/11

The scheme which was carefully explained to the Ruler

and/

and leading merchants caused some panic and the price of food-stuffs in the town at once soared, in some cases as high as 50% above normal.
Local importers including the Kuwait Oil Company Ltd sent in a series of conundrums and questions on points which they submitted could not have been foreseen, when Government's instructions were issued. These have all been submitted to India for study.
Kuwait's first requirement programme for August was submitted by telegram on 17th July - subsequent statements will go in on 1st of each month for each succeeding month.
The trouble is that those who can least afford it have been the first to suffer, for the first article of food to go up in price has been "rice" the staple diet of thousands of poor Badawin in the interior and many hundreds of townsfolk who literally live on the very border line of starvation.
Arrangements are being made to feed these latter if the need arise

103. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY LIMITED.

6914

Reference last Intelligence Summary No. 12 - para 92(c). On 4th July, at 3 a.m., Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Sass left for India via Basra accompanied by their respective husbands (as far as Basra only). The latter returned to Kuwait the same day, as they could find no accommodation in Basra even for one night.

On 6th July the Company had a serious accident on well No. 7 B.G which entailed a tedious "fishing" job of six days. The drill pipe apparently snapped off 2000' down the hole, and although the broken end was gripped pretty soon afterwards, nothing would move the bottom section. The problem was only satisfactorily tackled by cutting off section after section of drill pipe, till bottom was nearly reached.

On 6th July Mr. Scott reported that Cable and Wireless had removed themselves from the K.O.C offices where they have hitherto been installed, and had taken up their official quarters in their new building in the market square. They are still using K.O.C transmitter as their own arrived damaged.

It is understood that Cable and Wireless have refrained from charging the K.O.C anything on their cables as far as Bahrain in recognition of the assistance given them by the Oil Company during the last six weeks.

London has decided that the location of well No. 8 B.G shall be 3 K.M. east of No. 6 B.G. This has created some surprise locally as everyone expected it would be north of No. 7 B.G where conditions appeared favourable.

Well No. 7 B.G should be finished by July 30th and promises to be as good as the others.

104. CABLE AND WIRELESS LIMITED.

There is evidence that progress is at last being made towards the settlement of Kuwaits Post and Telegraph difficulties with the outer world and with Iraq in particular. The situation on July 11th was as follows:-

Telegraphs. (a) Cable and Wireless had telegraphed London and asked for temporary rates to be fixed for telegrams issuing to Iraq via Bahrain as an emergency measure only and in order that the public might get some form of telegraphic communication with Iraq.

*Rates have now been fixed.*

(b) Cable and Wireless have admitted officially that they have enough material, posts, wire, insulators/

*The Indian telegraph administration is going to take over the repair and operation of the landline within Kuweit territory.*

insulators etc. to repair the damaged land line to Basra.

Postal. (c) His Majesty's Ambassador Baghdad has been asked (through the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf) to approach the Iraq Government and arrange for them to agree urgently to an exchange of mails with Kuwait by land and sea routes.

*This matter is still unsettled.*

(d) On receipt of a favourable reply to (c) Cable and Wireless have agreed to arrange an immediate contract for transport of mails by car to and from Basra.

One is encouraged to believe that His Majesty's Ambassador will do his utmost to expedite (c) above, seeing that Kuwait has been entirely cut off from Iraq since May 7th, 1941, and that there is evidence to show that several months Kuwait mails are lying in Basra Civil Post Office awaiting the opening of a mail service.

105. IZZAT JAFFER. This individual arrived back in Kuwait from Jerusalem on 10th July in company with Dr. (Miss) Crouse (see summary No. 12 para 90).

Izzat Jaffer immediately reported to his master the Shaikh and called on the Agency the following day. His Highness the Shaikh himself followed suit and discussed the return of his Private Secretary in circumstances which had caused him as much surprise as it had done the Hon'ble the Political Resident.
The latter's verbal message to His Highness brought down ~~(by)~~ *from* Basra by the Political Agent on 28th June had previously been conveyed to His Highness and was to the effect that if the said Private Secretary returned, he (P.R) had no objection to his remaining in Kuwait seeing that the authorities originally responsible for his being sent away, now had apparently satisfied themselves that he was not the black sheep they originally thought him.

Meanwhile Izzat Jaffer has taken up his residence on the Palace, and His Highness has promised to keep a strict eye on him. The satisfactory part of this incident is that the Shaikh who was deeply hurt at the removal of his Private Secretary in the first place now sees in his return a generous admission from from those responsible that they were mistaken. This forms a satisfactory ending to an unfortunate affair.

106. ROYAL AIR FORCE.

In continuation of this Agency's Intelligence Summary No. 12 - paragraph 94.

On July 2nd at 10 p.m the Harbour Police reported to the Agency that one R.A.F officer had been rescued near Hagaija in the Khor Subiyeh and had been brought in by dhow in charge of one of the Shaikh's guards. The Political Agent immediately went to the Police Station and brought the officer (Flight Lieutenant Stephenson) up to the Agency. He was still in dazed and very exhausted condition. Apparently he had reached Hagaija on morning of 1st July, after having been 4 days and nights without food or water. He was there cared for by two Arabs for 30 hours until considered fit enough to travel to Kuwait.
As the rescued officer stated that one of his two companions might be found alive about 5 miles north of Hagaija and the second F/L Pilsworth some 10 miles further north, a car party was at once rushed out to search for them (1 a.m), and R.A.F Shaibah ~~xxx~~ was informed. The latter cooperated by plane and car before dawn, but unfortunately all efforts came too late.

As/

322

325



~~As the rescued officer stated that one of~~

As already reported in summary No. 12, one airmen was recovered dead, and the other was never found at all. It is supposed he was carried out to sea having never moved from his position in the mud on the edge of the Khor, where he was last seen to collapse.

All the Shaikh's guards and especially Shaikh Mohomad al Jabir Chief of the Port Police spared no effort in these rescue arrangements. Other guards who worked hard and searched without success the wide area lying between the Basra ~~an~~ road and the Khor Subiyeh were furnished by the Shaikh's garrison stationed at Jahra.

The R.A.F generously gave ~~/.~~ £.ID 100/- to be disbursed among the rescue and search parties and on behalf of His Majesty's Government and the Air Officer Commanding in Iraq a letter of thanks was sent to His Highness the Shaikh by the Agency in which the services of Shaikh Mohomad al Jabir al Sabah were specially commended.
All rewards were paid out by 12th July, it being left entirely to the Political Agent how this should be done.

107. ARRIVALS.

The Revd. Adeney arrived on 3rd July and held an evening service at Magwa. He celebrated Holy Communion in the Mission Church on Friday 4th July. He returned to Basra on the morning of 5th July.

Dr. (Miss)Crouse returned from leave on 10th July (see above)

Dr. A.L. Greenway, MBE, Q.M.O and Agency Doctor returned from leave in India on 14th July.

108. TRIBAL NEWS.

On 4th July news came through that Shaikh Ridden al Watban al Durwish a prominent personage in the Mutair tribe had died at Haba wells.

On the 5th July two men of the King's frontier guards at BAJSA in north Hassa came up to purchase supplies and called on the Agency (they were known to the Political Agent previously). They gave interesting details of the building operations that were going on at DOHAT SAFANIYEH, the new port that the King is developing south of the Neutral Zone.

On the 12th July a well known Ajman Shaikh just up from Riyadh called and gave the following items of news:

(a) Ibn Musa'ad, Governor of Hail who had been in Riyadh for the last 3 months had returned to Hail.

(b) The portion of the Palace in Riyadh which had collapsed (see Intelligence summary No.11 para 84(i)) was the King's Badawin Mijliss in the old Town Palace. The morning previous to the disaster the King had received 500 Shaikhs on the roof over the Mijliss room. Then it was that something was heard to crack below. After the reception was over, the King ordered workmen to examine the roof and pillars below, and left for Al Khafs. It was while these were removing the rugs from the Mijliss room that the roof fell in taking them with it, and crashed through the floor to the basement. Eight persons were killed and several injured.

(c) The paramount Ajman Shaikhs, Khalid al Hathlain and Rakkan al Hathlain sent respects and salutations.

On the 12th July Shaikh Ali bin Jassim al Thani (brother of the Ruler of Qatar) arrived in Kuwait accompanied by one Fahad al

-8-

al Thani. Both arrived for medical treatment in the Mission Hospital. It was while discussing their presence in Kuwait that His Highness the Ruler later expressed the hope that someday perhaps His Majesty's Government would permit him to try and bring about a reconciliation between the Rulers of Bahrain and Qatar.

109. SHIPPING. The Buoy and Lights vessel NEARCHUS arrived on 13th July and left on 14th. This was her first visit for 9 months.

110. HOSPITALITY. The Political Agent was asked out to dinner (Arab) as follows between 1st to 15th July:

(a) On 3rd by two DIYAHIN (Mutair) sub chiefs of the KHULAIFAN family at Abraq Khaitan.

(b) On 5th at Hawali by Banker Abdur Rahman bin Bahar (other guests Shaikhs Ali al Khalifah, Abdulla Jabir, Abdulla al Ahmad, Abdulla al Khalifah, Mohomad al Jabir, all of the al Sabah, also Khan Bahadur Mulla Saleh, Mohomad Jaffer etc).

(c) On 8th at Nigara by K.B. Mulla Saleh (other guests Shaikh Abdulla Jabir al Sabah - Chief Magistrate and his staff).

(d) On 14th by Shaikh Abdulla Jabir al Sabah.

111. LOCAL NEWS.

(a) On 30th June "Hambush" a farrash of the Agency since 12 years died after a sudden illness. This cast a gloom over the staff for several days.

(b) The export of sugar from Kuwait to Iraq and Saudi Arabia was prohibitted as from the 10th July, owing to local stocks being low. On the same date the Shaikh issued an order calling on all merchants to declare the stocks of food in their possession.

(c) Rumours are in circulation that Great Britain has asked the Persian Government for permission to send troops through Persia to Baku. That Persia had refused but that His Majesty's Government was exerting pressure on her to alter her decision.

112. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 112 |
| Minimum temperature | 90 |

( CORRECTIONS. Under this Agency Intelligence Summary No.12 paragraph 91 (b) 1st line, insert after "Gasidal Nahi" the words "brother of the". )

Kuwait, 18th July, 1941.

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson Lieut-Col.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

SECRET (327)

324

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1941 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 10.12 | [illegible] |
| | ~~Secretary~~ of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 11 | [illegible] |
| | Under ~~Secretary~~... | | |
| | ~~Secretary~~ of State | | |
| | ~~Perusal~~ ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

EXT 7807/41

EXT 7808/41



SUBJECT: Kuwait Intelligence Summaries Nos 15 & 16

Kuwait Intelligence Summaries for the month of August and the first fortnight of September are submitted. Major T. Hickinbotham took over the appointment of Political Agent, from Lt. Col Dickson on 14th August.

On 26th August the Chief Engineer and the Deputy Chief Engineer with the British forces in Iraq visited Kuwait and conferred with the Political Agent, and the Acting Manager of the Oil Company, Mr Patrick, on the extension of landing piers and the erection of a water tank at Kuwait.

Shaikh Ali bin Khalifah +, who was considered to be suffering from neglected diabetes, was to remain in hospital at Beirut for two months.

The activity at Umm Qasr was well known in

17xii

17/12

17/12

17/12

+ Governor of Kuwait town and one of the senior members of the Subah.

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

the town of Kuwait by the end of August.+ The action of the British in Iran was welcomed by all classes. On 28th Aug. a notice was issued forbidding the discussion of political matters in public, or the expression of anti-British sentiments.

+ The British military authorities in Iraq are building, or are about to build, a port at Umm Qasr, on the disputed Koweit-Iraq frontier, in order to supplement the over-worked port facilities at Basra etc.

The Basra Customs authorities arranged for Kuwait water 'booms' to be dealt with at the Fao customs post at any time. Booms arriving after 5.0. p.m no longer have to wait till next morning.

The catch of pearls was said to be reasonably good, and prices were higher.

In September it was found possible to institute post and telegraph censorship between Kuwait and Saudi-Arabia.

For Information

M. Rolgers.
8/12.

E.W.R. Lumby.
9.xii.

SECRET.

No. 16 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th September, 1941.

---

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

142. The Political Agent called on the Shaikh on the 3rd and 6th, and the Shaikh called on the Political Agent on the 10th and 15th.

143. The Political Agent visited Hagaija on the 9th. His car was delayed by a broken spring and eventually brought to a standstill by a broken axle so that he did not return to Kuwait until the next day. He visited Umm Qasr and Safwan on the 14th.

144. Col. Thompson, O.B.E., M.C., Major Tyse and Captain P.F. Allum of the 103 Railway Survey Company visited Kuwait on the 4th, and conferred with the Political Agent. Five of the Shaikh's guards have joined the Survey Camp between Umm Qasr and Hagaija.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

145. On the 6th, 8 Blenheims of Nos. 84 Squadron and 2 Valentias of No. 248 Squadron visited Kuwait. One of the Blenheims landed with the under carriage up but no one was seriously hurt. Arrangements are being made to take the damaged aircraft to Shaibah on a lorry.

146. Aircraft from Shaibah have paid numerous visits during the past fifteen days.

LOCAL PERSONAGES.

147. Reference paragraph 130 of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1941.

On the 13th a letter was received from Shaikh Ali Khalifah at Beirut saying that he had been ordered to remain in hospital for at least 2 months to undergo treatment. The medical officers have modified their first diagnosis, which was tuberculosis, and now consider the patient is suffering from neglected diabetes and that he has an inherited tendency to phthisis. Shaikh Ali's numerous followers have returned,

and/

326
329

-2-

and left him with one servant.

SAUDI ARABIA.

148. It has now been found possible to institute post and telegraph censorship.

On the 14th the Riyadh - Kuwait post was opened and the registered letters were found to be wrapped in a page of the "DEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG" dated June 21st, 1941. Riyadh's newspaper post from Germany ?via Turkey seems to be quicker than ours from England. Enquiries are being made.

149. Reference paragraph 138 of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1941. Ibn Saud returned to Riyadh on 4th and is now reported to have left to visit his Finance Minister.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

150. Reference para.52 of Kuwait summary No. 9 of 1941. The pearling fleet returned on the 15th. The catch is said to be reasonably good and prices are higher than last year owing to the favourable tone of the Bombay market.

METEOROLOGICAL.

151. Maximum temperature: 110.
Minimum temperature: 82.

EXCHANGE RATES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 152. | £.1/- Sterling (Gold) | Rupees. | 36- 4. |
| | 100 Maria Theresa Dollars. | " | 107-13. |
| | 100 Saudi Rials. | " | 96- 2 |
| | £. 1/- Iraqi Dinar. | " | 12-12. |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th September, 1941.

6914
6913.

No. 15.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the month of August, 1941.

BRITISH OFFICIALS.

124. The Political Agent visited Shaikh Ali al Khalifah on August 4th and gave a dinner party the same evening to certain of the local notables.

125. Major T. Hickinbotham, O.B.E., arrived from Muscat on August 16th and took over the appointment of Political Agent, Kuwait, from Lieut-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E, on August 17th.

The Political Agent and Lieut-Col. Dickson called informally on the Shaikh on the 18th of August. The Shaikh called on the Political Agent on the 23rd of August and the 31st of August, and the Political Agent dined with the Shaikh on the 22nd of August. Formal calls have been postponed until the Political Agent's baggage arrives.

The members of the As Subah family and the leading merchants called on the Political Agent between the 18th and the end of the month.

126. On the 26th of August Brigadier C.G. Martin, V.C., C.B.E., D.S.O., and Lieut-Colonel E.A. Martin, M.C., the Chief Engineer and the Deputy Chief Engineer in Iraq respectively, visited Kuwait and conferred with the Political Agent and the Acting Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company on the subject of the extension of the present landing piers and the erection of a water tank of a minimum capacity of 100,000 gallons. The Kuwait Oil Company are prepared to carry out the work for the Chief Engineer.

127. The Political Agent visited Basra on the 24th August and returned to Kuwait the following day. While in Basra he called on Major-General G. Beresford, C.B., M.C., Sir John Ward, K.B.E etc., H.B.M's Consul and Mr. Ringrow Director of Customs. He met the Mutassarif, Lieut-Col. A.C. Galloway, O.B.E, and Shaikh Saleh Bash A'yan Abbassi.

The Political Agent visited Fantas on the 28th August returning to Kuwait the same day.

LOCAL PERSONAGES.



128./

328
331

-2-

128. Shaikh Abdulla bin Salim, C.I.E., returned from Syria on the 15th of August and left for Falaicha Island on the 31st.

129. Shaikh Fahad bin Salim returned from Baghdad on the 20th.

See Summary 16 par 147

130. Shaikh Ali bin Khalifah left for Syria on August 25th for medical treatment and a rest. He is getting on in life and has diabetes. Shaikh Abdulla bin Mubarak is acting for him.

KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

131. Mr. L.D. Scott left for India on 2 months' leave on August 4th. Mr. T.E. Patrick is acting as Manager in his absence

132. Mr. T.E. Patrick is returning to the United States of America on the return of Mr. Scott. It seems that there is little or nothing for him to do as no advance is being made with a view to production. Wells are being bored and sealed off till after the war.

LOCAL INTERESTS.

133. It seems that the activity at Umm Qasr is now known in the town. The Shaikh mentioned the possible construction of a port there to certain members of the Majliss.

134. A notice was issued to the public on the 28th of August forbidding the discussion of political matters in public and pointing out that expressions of anti-British sentiments would not be tolerated. The previous day Shaikh Abdulla bin Mubarak, Acting Governor of Kuwait town, had some twenty young men brought before him and severely warned them that if they repeated any pro-Nazi slogans or made any remarks detrimental to British interests they would be deported or banished. These young men are of the petty shopkeeper class and are persons of no substance.

135. Some ill feeling exists between Abdulla Nafisi and Abdulla Qadhi, Ibn Saud's two officials here. The former has been given instructions to purchase one hundred and fifty sail-cloth army tents for Ibn Saud.

136. A moderately large party of Awazim are encamped at Subaihiyeh.

137. The action taken by His Majesty's Government in Iran has been welcomed by all classes of the community.

SAUDI ARABIA.

138./

-3-

138. Ibn Saud is reported to have gone on a tour of Qasim and Hail. He is expected to return to Riyadh by the 20th of September for the Ramadhan fast.

The mother of the paramount Shaikh of the Mutair arrived here this week. She informed Lieut-Col. Dickson that Ibn Saud was becoming more and more pro-British.

IRAQ.

139. As a result of unofficial representations ~~to~~ the Basra Customs authorities have arranged for their customs post at Fao to deal with Kuwait water "booms" at any time thus making it unnecessary for boats arriving after 5 p.m having to wait until the next morning as was previously the case. This action by the Customs authorities has resulted in a speeding up of the "booms" which is much appreciated locally.

METEOROLOGICAL.

| 140. | Maximum temperature: | 112 |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum temperature: | 90 |

EXCHANGE RATES.

| 141. | £ 1/- Sterling (gold) | Rupees. | 35- 3 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 100 Maria Theresa dollars. | " | 114- 0 |
| | 100 Saudi Rials. | " | 94- 0 |
| | £ 1/- Iraqi dinar. | " | 12-13. |

Sd. T. Hickinbotham, Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

1st September, 1941.

330 P.A.

SECRET (333) M.O. 8/12.

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 41 | Initials. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Despn | Under Secretary... | 18. 11 | [initials] |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Pol Committee | 21 | [initials] |
| | Under Secretary... | | |
| | Secretary of State | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | |

EXTERNAL Department.

Ext 6912/41
Ext 6913/41
Ext 6914/41

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos 10, 11, & 12.



These Summaries cover the period, from 16th May to the end of June, which saw an influx of refugees from Iraq; the spread of wild rumours; the collapse of Rashid Ali; and the return of the Iraqis to their own country. The attitude of the Sheikh was excellent; while advocating that the British should take a very firm line in Iraq, he took a personal part in combatting alarmist rumours; passed orders such as that prohibiting the eviction of a tenant in favour of a refugee, but well-paying, Iraqi; and ordered the camping of tribes where they could safeguard the Koweit - Basra road. His conduct, together with the stabilising influence of Ibn Saud, kept the local Badawin from putting too great faith in Axis propaganda.

The Acting Political Agent, Col Dickson, who was not

CL 24/11

[initials] 25/11

[initials] 26/11/41

[initials] 27/xi

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

relieved by Maj. Hickinbotham until August, complains in the May Summary of the Postal difficulties in Koweit.
Except for the landline from Iraq, the telegraph and postal arrangements are now working more smoothly.

The Koweit Oil Company continued boring at the Burgan oil well No 7; and at the beginning of June "cap rock" had been reached. The experimental water wells near Kunaitis and at Magwa, however, both proved failures. On 25th May the Sheikh and Mr. Scott of the K.O.C. agreed that 3 annas extra per diem should be granted to Koweiti workmen to meet the rise in the cost of food.

Izzat Jaffar, the Sheikh's Syrian private secretary, whom he expelled from Koweit in January this year, after representations from the Political Authorities; and who was suspected of being in touch with the Italians, appears to have ingratiated himself with the Authorities in Jerusalem. (Summary No. 12 paras. 87 and 90).

M. Colgers.
7/11

For Information

The purpose of Brigadier Martin's visit (Summary 10, para. 68) was to explore the possibility of developing port etc. facilities at Koweit with a view to landing supplies there for the British forces in Iraq, thus relieving the congestion elsewhere.

E.W.R.Lumby. 18.xi.

FILE COPY

File 20/45(2) with Din Colgers 6913



331 (33A)

Miss O
Mr L
Fp

SECRET.

No. 12 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the Period from 16th to 30th June, 1941.



87. HIS HIGHNESS THE SHAIKH.

On the 17th the Shaikh proceeded for the day to Falaika Island (20 miles) and lunched with Shaikh Abdulla Salim. He returned in the evening.

Bahrain Intelligence Summary No 12 para 91(1). (for different view)

On the 19th the Political Agent called on the Shaikh at Dasman and informed him among other business, that he had received a telegram from Brigadier Clayton through the High Commissioner Jerusalem to the effect that his Private Secretary Izzat Jaffar who was in Jerusalem was short of funds, and suggesting that the Shaikh be asked to send money. Brigadier Clayton had added that he was anxious to help Izzat Jaffer, as the latter had done good work for Government. His Highness who appeared completely taken aback promised to do the needful to send funds telegraphically to the Ottoman Bank Jerusalem. A telegram to this effect was duly sent off to High Commissioner Jerusalem.

See para 80

Shaikh Abdulla Salim. This personage is still enjoying the air on Falaika island, and from time to time receives visitors who stay two or three days and return to Kuwait. He is reported to be well.

89. HOSPITALITY.

(a) On the 21st the following were entertained to an Arab banquet at Abraq Khaitan by the Political Agent:

Mr. Scott, General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company.
Shaikh Ali al Khalifah.
Shaikh Abdulla al Ahmad.
Shaikh Abdulla al Mubarak.
Shaikh Salim al Hamud.
Shaikh Hamud al Salman.
Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir.
Khan Bahadur Mulla Saleh.
Abdulla al Mullah Saleh.
Faleh Ibn Khudaiyir (Mutairi).

(b) On the 23rd the Political Agent dined with Khan Bahadur Mulla Saleh at Nigara camp (other guests Shaikh Salim al Hamud and Shaikh Abdulla Jabir).



(c) On the 25th the Political Agent was entertained to

332
(335)



to dinner by Shaikh Salim Hamud.

90. MOVEMENTS. On the 28th the Political Agent proceeded to Basra to meet the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf who flew up from Bahrain on the 27th evening. The latter stayed at the Air Port Hotel with his Secretary Captain A.C. Stewart. The Political Agent was kindly put up by H.M's Consul in Ashar. The Political Agent returned on the 28th.

Before he left for Basra the Political Agent called on His Highness the Shaikh and told him that High Commissioner Jerusalem had again wired to say that Miss. Crouse of the American Mission was leaving Jerusalem for Kuwait via Baghdad in company with Izzat Jaffer, Shaikh's Private Secretary. This was in reply to a telegraphic enquiry about Miss Crouse concerning whom no news had been received for 2 months (see later). His Highness seemed perturbed at the news and asked the writer to convey to the Hon'ble the Political Resident the assurance that he was quite unaware of his Private Secretary's movements and stood by his promise not to have him back till the end of the war.

See para 87.

91. TRIBAL VISITORS.

See para. 75(b) of Summary No.11.

(a) On the 17th Amir Haif bin Hajraf Chief of the Al Sulaiman Section of the Ajman tribe called and invited the Political Agent to visit his tents at Jahra.

(b) On the 18th Shaikh Mishir bin Gasid al Nahi brother of the paramount chief of the Hatcham tribe (Mujarra confederation of the Muntafiq) arrived from Suq Seh Shuyakh and called on the Agency. He gave interesting details of the murder of the late Captain Jeffreys in Nasriyeh. He expressed his loyalty to the British and asked for a letter to the Army authorities in Basra, detailing the services of the British of his father Shaikh Qasid al Nahi in the Great War 1914-18. The Political Agent whose life had been saved by Shaikh Qasid in 1917 by a particularly brave act was able to help him in the way he desired. It was a question of the deeds of the

the fathers not being known to the present generation.

(c) On the 22nd Shaikh Turki bin Asqa al Shuquair al Duwish one of the leading Mutair Shaikhs of Saudi Arabia called. He was emphatic that the King was England's friend, although he did not discuss the war much these days in Mijliss. He always told them of any English successes however. He added that it followed that if Bin Saud was England's friend the great tribes would follow suit. He gave the interesting news that a new well 210 feet deep has just been finished at Al Haba in the Summan by the Dushan Shuyukh. He was accompanied by Shaikh Laafi bin Maalidh, another well known Mutair Shaikh.

(d) On the 24th Shaikh Majid al Asqal Duwish brother of (c) above called to congratulate (as he said) the Political Agent on being in Government service again. He had just come in from Riyadh and was able to confirm the news mentioned in this Agency's last Intelligence summary No. 11 of 1941. para. 84 (i) that two floors of the old palace in Riyadh had collapsed and killed eight persons (making coffee on the ground floor) some 12 hours after the King had held mijliss on the roof.

(e) On the 26th Shaikh Mohomad bin Ab'aub of the Jashaam (camel tribe of the Muntafiq) called. He stated that his people were camped for the summer on Um al Rudhuma wells south west of the Tawal al Dhafir (Iraq Neutral Zone) and that he had come up to see the Doctor in one of the King's cars. The Political Agent knew the father twenty years previously. It was clear that the youth had consumption.

92. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY LIMITED.

(a) On the 17th the long expected Buick saloon car for His Highness the Shaikh arrived by s.s. Leuchenbach. After it had been unpacked, cleaned and batteries charged, the car was formally presented to His Highness the Shaikh on the 25th by Mr. Scott the General Superintendent on behalf of the Directors of the Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd in the presence of the

-4-

the Political Agent, Drilling Superintendent, Mr. Wardrop Workshop Supervisor and others. The car is a superb model of General Motors workmanship is coloured all white with cromium plate fittings, is full of "gadjets" and is of 80 H.P and has the name of H.H painted in neat black characters on both doors.

(b) News reached Mr. Scott on the 16th that Mr. Tozer of the Rafidain Oil Co. had been lost in an R.A.F 'plane flying from Baghdad to Basra on the 13th. The news was immediately passed to the Shaikh with a request that the Badawin in the north of the State be warned.

see para 94 (c).

(c) It was decided on the 20th that Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Sass, wives of the American Drilling Superintendent and Geologist respectively should leave for India by first available steamer from Basra. The husbands to join them in Bombay as soon as well B.G.7 was completed (probably in September). The above moves will leave only one Company lady in Magwa and two in Kuwait.

Ext 3636/41 replaced by Kuss & Gunts

(d) On the 25th Mr. Scott reported that they were well in the first "pay zone" of well No. 7 B.G.

93. AMERICAN MISSION. (a) The same ship that brought H.H's car brought also a complete X ray outfit for the Mission Hospital. This has been very badly needed. Some of the cases had been broken open en route and articles stolen.

(b) On the 18th the Mission authorities, having heard no news of Dr. Miss Crouse, who had left for Palestine 3 months previously and knowing that she must be short of money requested the Agency to enquire as to her whereabouts from the High Commissioner Jerusalem. The reply came on 27th (see "Movements above).

(c) It was learned from Revd. De Jong on the 16th that Mrs. Thoms had been involved in a serious car accident at Muscat in which she and her children narrowly escaped death. Apparently their car whilst moving between Muscat and Mutra along the

c.f. Muscat Intelligence Summary 9 para 112.

cliffroad had fallen over the precipice. Dr. Thoms was quickly on the scene and was able to save his small son whose jugular vein had been cut, leg broken in 2 places and also a rib, Mrs. Thoms suffered a bad scalp wound while their little girl got off with severe bruises.

94. ROYAL AIR FORCE. (a) On the 21st 2 RAF aircraft called at Kuwait to examine the new Cable and wireless lattice masts and to arrange for warning Red Light to be erected on them.

(b) On the 25th one of the above aircraft returned and after its occupants had breakfasted at the Agency left for Shaiba at 10-30 a.m. Unfortunately it struck the severe sand storm mentioned at the end of this report when half way to Shaibah and was forced down by engine trouble.

(c) No report was made to this Agency that the aircraft had not reached Shaibah and it was only on 28th that the Political Agent (when in Basra) was told of the accident by the British Consul. Immediately on his return to Kuwait at 8 p.m on 29th he arranged for search parties of Shaikhs men to scour the country to the north and north west in cars.

(d) On the 29th p.m news was received from Shaibah that the machine had been located near Khor Zobeir but occupants were missing. In case they had been picked up by a fishing boat search parties were sent to Failika island, Subiyeh and Khor Abdulla but these failed to locate the missing airmen.

(Later. One of the 3 lost airmen was subsequently found and rescued alive near Hagatja south end of Subiyeh inlet on Tuesday 1st July, another was found dead on 3rd July and the fourth has not been recovered - see next report for further details).

(c) On the 29th the Shaikh reported that a smashed aircraft with five dead bodies near it had been located by Badawin 10 to 15 miles west ~~of~~ by south of Rafa'aiyeh wells (Iraq), i.e. some 30 miles west by south of Shaibah. The news was immediately passed to Shaibah. ~~Correction~~ This turned out to be the lost aircraft which had left Baghdad on the 13th June and had not been heard of - see para (b) above under heading Kuwait Oil Company and the bodies were subsequently brought in to Shaibah on 3rd July and identified.

336
339

-6-

95. BRITISH AIRWAYS.

Mr. Jones of British Airways now at Kuwait has been told to hold himself in readiness to shut down his office and leave for Basra. Presumably he will leave his moorings buoys in position.

96. FOREIGN SHIPPING. Nil.

97. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 116

Minimum temperature: 80

(a) During the period under review the weather shewed distinct signs of getting hotter.

(b) A very severe dust storm struck Kuwait on the 25th and continued without pause till 29th. For most of the time visibility was barely 100 '. The one bright spot in a dismal situation was the resulting drop in temperature. (This relief continued for three days into July).

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson.Lt-Col.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

4th July, 1941.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 11 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th June 1941.

72. AVIATION.

On 1st June two R.A.F. aircraft arrived at Kuwait with the new R.A.F. Officer Commanding Shaibah and Squadron Leader Lombardy. After breakfasting in the Agency and discussing business the above officers left for Shaibah.

73. ROYAL NAVY.

(a) On 5th June, H.M.S. Enterprise accompanied by a small tanker anchored off Ras Ajuza (about 10 miles east of black buoy), but did not attempt to contact the shore. The writer later sent out a letter to the Captain enquiring if he could be of assistance and inviting him ashore. In reply the Captain stated that he was awaiting the arrival of a supply ship with stores. The latter (Pronto) arrived on 6th June and after taking in stores H.M.S. Enterprise left for an unknown destination. No calls were made during the ship's visit.

(b) On 10th June the Senior Naval Officer Persian Gulf asked the Hon'ble the Political Resident by telegram (repeating this Agency) if the Shaikh's large motor yacht, and also the Political Agent's launch could be either lent, hired or sold for work on the Shatt Al Arab. The Political Resident replied in the negative. By a curious coincidence His Highness the Shaikh, on 14th June, called on the writer and offered his smaller Thornycroft launch to Government saying that he had heard that the Shaikh of Bahrain had made a similar offer and he did not want to be behind hand. This offer was duly passed to the Senior Naval Officer, as well as information that a second launch, the property of Haji Shamlan, was also available for sale.

74. VISITORS.

On 3rd June Mr. Ringrow of the Customs Department Basra together with a Mr. David of the Port Directorate landed at Kuwait from S.S. Bandar Shahpour. They had come out from England, and as they were anxious to reach Basra without delay, they were given lunch and sent off by car.

75. TRIBAL NEWS.

(a) On 1st June Shaikh Mutluq bin Musailim, Chief of the Rashaida tribe of Badawin, called on the Political Agent and was given a present of coffee. He reported that his people (some 80 tents) were camped on the "Khabra" (lakelet) 12 miles north west of Jahara, and that in a few days time and by order of His Highness the Ruler they would settle for the summer on the wells of that name:

(b) Amir Haif bin Hajraf of the Sulaiman section of the Ajman arrived at Jahara on 10th June (see para 69 of last Intelligence Summary) with some 40 tents also by order of the Shaikh of Kuwait. Both his camels and those of the Rashaida, (a) above, will remain in the Summan region, (Saudi Arabia) south of Jeriya where grazing remains good. Amir Haif is in charge of the Shaikh of Kuwait's tribal levies or "fidawi".

Comment: Moves (a) and (b) are deliberate, with a view to safeguarding the Kuwait Basra motor route.

(c) The Shaikh of Kuwait's camel herds are at the moment of writing still camped at Na'airiyeh in North Hassa in charge of "Shaiyeh" Al Mutairi, and under the general control of "Nazzal" His Highness' chief guide and hunter. It is understood that they will remain in Saudi Arabia so long as affairs in Iraq progress favourably. These camels together with those of Shaikh Sabah Al Nasir Al Sabah number some 3000 head.

(d) June has seen the usual steady movement of the Badawin

/world

world to the various well known water wells in north east Arabia, and the wells of Hafar, Jahara, Subahiyeh, Safwan, Tawil, Wafra etc. are now crowded with tents and will remain so till the end of the hot weather.

(c) This summer move to the wells has been the signal for various desert Shaikhs and their womenfolk to come into Kuwait to replenish supplies. Most of them have taken the opportunity of calling at the Agency. The news they bring is always interesting and they have confirmed the fact that the Badawin tribes of Arabia, are very much on the side of England as far as war sympathies go. The knowledge which these people have of events in Syria and Iraq is surprisingly accurate. They confirmed the many reports that camel mange (Jarab) is worse than usual this year, especially in the Hasa region and among the Ajman tribe.

No doubt voicing the anxieties of their men-folk the women appeared to be worried by one fear - the high cost of food and possibility of famine in Arabia, if the war goes on too long.

76. IRAQI REFUGEES.

see para 60.

(a) The period under review saw the departure back to Basra of all the Iraqi refugees, who arrived in Kuwait recently - (see para 60 of last summary). Of these Seyed Haji Mahmoud Al Naama and family left on 6th June, while Haji Saud and Abdul Aziz Al Saleh Al Naama, Ash Shabibi and Seyed Hamid Beg Al Naqib left on 9th June.

(b) One refugee, Abdul Aziz Al Bassam, will have cause to remember his visit to Kuwait. Whilst here, the driver of his car knocked down and killed a small boy. The local Qadhi ordered him to pay as blood money to the parents Rs. 2000/-.

The driver pleaded poverty, so his master was told to pay up. The latter pleaded that Rs.2000/- was exhorbitant and not according to Iraq's scale of blood money payments. After appeal to His Highness the latter sent the case to the Mijliss. This body refused to move unless His Highness himself attended and helped them adjudicate the matter. After much argument His Highness got the figure reduced to Rs.800/-, and the money was paid over to the boy's parents by Abdul Aziz Bassam. The case resulted in His Highness passing a local law that in the event of a townsman killing another accidentally and it being proved that he could not find the blood money (Diya) fixed by the Sharia Court, then the case would be passed to the Mijliss, who would decide what could be paid, down to a minimum of Rs. 800/-.

77. IRAQI NEWS.

Reference para 57 of last summary.

c.f. para 57.

On 1st June news reached Kuwait that the Regent Abdul 'Illa had formally entered Baghdad amidst the acclamations of the populace. The effect of this announcement on the people of Kuwait was of the best, and one hears no more talk today of people holding pro-Nazi or Pro-Rashid Ali views. All those holding anti-Shaikh or anti-British ideas have either gone to ground or have thought it wise to take a change of air.

The names of those forming the Regent's New Iraq Cabinet were received in Kuwait on 3rd June and gave satisfaction.

What now remains, to quote His Highness the Shaikh is the "strong arm". "If", says Shaikh Ahmad, "the followers of Rashid Ali are hunted out and brought to book properly and without delay, then all will be well for England and Iraq, if, however, the slightest weakness is shown, then further trouble is likely". From this it will be gathered what the views of the Shaikh of Kuwait are.

On 4th June (evening) news filtered through that serious Arab-Jew rioting and looting of the Bazaar had followed the

/entry

339

(342)

3.

entry of the Regent into Baghdad, and that the killed numbered over 400 in Rashid Street alone. It became known later that most of the casualties were caused by the action of two Kurd cavalry regiments who were drafted in from Kirkuk by Abdul Ilah to deal with the situation. His Highness opined that this blood letting would do good, and would bring home to the British Government that the masses of Iraq were bad all through and would have to be carefully watched.

78. SAUDI ARABIAN NEWS.
On 4th June at 8 a.m. Al Nafisi, the King's local agent, called and asked if the writer could confirm the news that heavy rioting had occurred in Baghdad following the Regent's entry. His version was that the mob had been machine gunned by Arab Army troops, and that casualties were 2000. The writer, was unable to confirm the report. Al Nafisi obviously wanted to pass the news on to Bin Saud and wanted to see how much the Political Agent knew about it.

79. HIS HIGHNESS THE SHAIKH.
(a) On 2nd June the writer took Mr. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd., to call on the Shaikh and routine matters connected with the Oil Company were discussed. The Shaikh took occasion to read Mr. Scott a homily about listening to "Town gossip". He warned him that certain persons were interested in spreading false rumours all the time with the deliberate intention of creating alarm and despondency among Europeans in Kuwait. That should he want any news, especially to do with the local situation, he (Scott) should come to him, and he would be only too pleased to give it him at all times. After all he had his finger on the peoples pulse, and knew better than anyone else what was going on in both desert and town. His Highness put what he had to say very nicely, and in order that Mr. Scott should not be hurt he added smilingly, "even Colonel Dickson swallows certain peoples chat, but he of course is incorrigible".

The homily actually was aimed at a certain well known and wealthy Arab in the town, who under the guise of being pro-British, had early in May gone out of his way to alarm the Oil Company by hair raising stories of how the leading Ulema of Iraq had declared a "Jehad" against the English and that the Muslim world was about to rise and smite them hip and thigh. His Highness had got to hear of the gentleman's activities.

(b) His Highness dined at the Agency on 6th June. Seyed Hamid Beg Al Naqib was the other guest.

After dinner Seyed Hamid rather too eloquently described the enormous damage which had been done to his property in and around Basra by Futuwa students and members of the Iraq Army, simply because he was known to have friendly feelings for the British (see para 60 of Intelligence Summary No.10). He added that his son had returned from Baghdad shocked at all he had seen, but well. That Seyed Talib's son had also got back, but that Sir J. Ward had refused to reinstate him in the Port. To this the Shaikh unsympathetically remarked "and quite right too".

[Marginal note: These young men had been ordered to join Rashid Ali's army (see Appendix to Summary 10).]

According to the worthy Seyed the Iraq Army losses about Feluja had been 11000, and in the rioting in Baghdad 100 members of the Futuwa had been killed.

(c) On 8th June the Shaikh called on the writer and reported that Hamid Beg would leave next day, and that he had advised him to go to Baghdad and make his peace with the Regent. The Shaikh has known Hamid Beg since a boy. He likes him but is never deceived by the pleasant things he says. The flight to Kuwait of Seyed Hamid Beg, was described by His Highness in the following words "He fled because he is a coward and that is the beginning and end of it".

/80.

340
(343)

see para 87

4.

80. SHAIKH ABDULLA AL SALIM.
At the time of writing this personage is still enjoying the air on Falaika Island. He left for his holiday just before Baghdad was occupied (see para 57 of last Intelligence Summary).

81. CALLS.
Calls were paid by the writer on the following notables during the period under review:

Shaikh Ali Al Khalifah.
Shaikh Abdulla Al Ahmad.
Shaikh Abdulla Jabir.
Shaikh Mohamed Al Ahmad.
Shaikh Abdulla Al Mubarak.
Shaikh Abdulla Al Nafisi.
Khan Bahadur Mulla Saleh.
Abdulla Al Nafisi.

Shaikh Mohamed Al Ahmad (the Shaikh's son who manages his estates in Iraq) and who the writer saw on 12th June, spoke very candidly about the Iraq situation. One of the pithy things he said was that the Futuwa movement had completely inspired the youth of Iraq with fanaticism and hatred for the British, but that their parents one and all had supported their sons in the movement and so were equally to blame. He added that Sir John Ward had done well to refuse to take back into the Port, those officials like Seyed Talib's sons who had joined the forces of Rashid Ali. He hoped pressure would not be brought to bear on him by the Regent to do otherwise.

82. KING EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.
This fell on 12th June, and was declared a public holiday by His Highness the Shaikh. All shops were shut and the Agency flagstaff as well as that of the Ruler's were dressed. Although no official functions were held, a small informal reception for Europeans only was held at the Agency after sunset.

83. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.
Mr. Scott, General Superintendent, proceeded to Basra on 3rd June and returned again on 7th.

Mr. Sass, American citizen and Resident Geologist to the Company, appeared for his preliminary Arabic Examination on 3rd June before the Political Agent. He passed successfully.

On 11th June Mr. Scott reported to the Shaikh that experimental water well No. 11 (location near Funaitis on coast 15 miles from Kuwait) had turned out a failure. The water found was highly sulphurous and quite unpotable. It was similar to that of Ain Al Abd in the neutral zone. The well was cemented up and killed so as to prevent damage to the surrounding country.

The last experimental water well of the year was put down at Magwa immediately afterwards but this has turned out a failure also.

Oil well No. 7 is progressing satisfactorily. During the fortnight under review the "cap rock" was reached and casing was run and cemented.

It has been decided that Mrs. Patrick and Mrs. Sass wives of the Drilling Superintendent and Resident Geologist respectively, will shortly proceed to India on leave. They will be joined by their husbands after well No. 7 is completed and all will probably return to the U.S.A. They have now done so and have been replaced.

84. LOCAL NEWS.
(a) A small land case in which the Ras Al Ardh lighthouse keeper was involved was settled on June 7th through the good offices of this Agency. The matter was taken up to His Highness the Shaikh personally.

(b)

341
344

5.

(b) Another effort was made between 3rd and 11th June to locate the R.A.F. aeroplane which fell into the sea on night of 4/5th May (see para 49 of Summary No. 9 of 1941). The Political Agent persuaded the owner of a small dhow to see what he could do. In spite of a really good effort however no trace whatsoever was found of the sunken aircraft.

In the meantime the fishermen on Marchan and Falaicha Islands have all been again warned that the happy finder of the aircraft will at once receive Rs. 300/- from this Agency.

(c) On 9th June an Iraqi by name Hashim Khayat who purported to have been employed by Squadron Leader Domvile, R.A.F., Baghdad, visited the Agency in company with two seedy looking individuals. All asked for visas to Bahrain. As they could produce no satisfactory documents they were turned away. Hashim Khayat himself pleaded that he had been hunted by the Iraq Government of Rashid Ali, and had been obliged to flee the country. He has now returned to Iraq with his two companions.

(d) On 6th June owing to a sudden large influx of persons coming down from Zubair in cars or lorries who claimed that they were buyers of <u>foodstuffs</u> of which great scarcity existed in Basra, His Highness the Shaikh put an immediate ban on the following articles: <u>Tea</u>, <u>Sugar</u>, <u>matches</u>, <u>coffee</u>, <u>flour</u> - Had he not done so Kuwait would have been denuded of these articles. The ban was removed on 10th June.

(e) All Kuwait schools closed on June 14th for the summer holidays (of 3 months).

(f) On the 7th, Captain de Gaury M.C., late Political Agent Kuwait, telegraphed for his motor driver to join him in Transjordan. On 15th he again wired for him to come by K.L.M. 'plane adding that he was remitting him necessary funds.

(g) The writer visited the Burgan Oil Well area on 12th June and inspected all the Oil Company's guards.

(h) A local Shiah prophetess and reader of the heavens declared to the wife of Shaikh Ali Al Khalifah on 11th June that according to the stars the British would win the war, which would be decided in Soviet Russia after a great slaughter of Germans. The same lady a year ago is said to have prophesied the recent military operations in Iraq.

The resulting Russo German conflict has caused the lady's stock to go right up.

(i) A reliable report from Riyadh stated that a portion of the King's old palace inside the Town (now occupied by the Heir Apparent) collapsed suddenly on 8th June and caused the death of several servants. The Amir Saud was luckily away at the time.

85. <u>FOREIGN SHIPPING.</u> N I L.

86. <u>METEOROLOGICAL.</u>

Maximum temperature 113°

Minimum temperature 78°

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson.

Lieut.-Col.,
Political Agent Kuwait.

June 17th 1941.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 10 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st May 1941.



56. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. Aircraft of the Royal Air Force visited Kuwait on the 21st and 25th May.

57. POLITICAL.

Local interest has centered on Iraq during the fortnight under review, and both the "Bismark" affair and the fighting in Crete took second place. The news of the proximity of British Forces to Baghdad and the stabilizing influences at work in Basra had materially altered the local population's outlook by the end of May. Cars and lorries have again started running between Kuwait and Basra and some of the many Iraqi refugees who arrived in Kuwait recently show signs of wanting to get home again.

On May 31st came the news that the British had occupied the suburbs of Baghdad and that the rebels had sent out a white flag to the Iron Bridge immediately south of Baghdad, preparatory to surrendering the Capital. This news was received with quite remarkable satisfaction by the pro-British party in Kuwait headed by His Highness the Shaikh. Conversely the supposedly secret anti-Shaikh and pro-Rashid Ali party in the town were clean "bowled out" not only by the suddeness of the news but by the failure of the rebel forces, in which they had put such high hopes, to even put up a show. These gentry who form an important section of the merchants residing in the west end of the town have now gone to ground - some have actually taken to their beds so affected have they been by what they consider the completely disheartening turn of events !! Their leader has taken a holiday on Failaka Island ! His Highness the Shaikh has grown more cheerful everyday and on 31st May, in public Mijliss he unmercifully castigated those who are supposed to hold pro-Nazi views and believe that Hitler has disinterested ideas towards Arabs and Muslims in general.

His Highness himself holds very definite views on the need for punishing those persons in Iraq, and more especially the leaders of the Futuwa movement, who supported Rashid Ali.

/These

343
(346)

2.

These persons are all known and if His Majesty's Government and the Regent are to have peace they should one and all be publicly hung he says.

His Highness has declared several times recently to the writer that the majority of Iraqis are pro-Nazi whatever they may say outwardly and that unless His Majesty's Government deals with the leaders, they will raise their heads again and bite, on the first opportunity.

58. POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS.

Post and Telegraph communication with the outside world is still difficult for local merchants and the European population - some capital has been made out of this. The fault appears to lie with Basra, where it is reported that many mail bags for Kuwait are lying in the General Post Office which, as far as one knows, still remains closed (31.5.41). Actually no English mails have reached Kuwait since 1st May, although five bags were salved from the Army postal department Basra by Mr. Scott of the Kuwait Oil Company on 21st May and were brought down privately and contents distributed by this Agency; these bags however contained letters from America and India only.

see para 63.

It was a sad day for local Europeans when the S.S. "Barala" (Mail Boat) which spent nearly 3 weeks in Basra, arrived back on 30th May with only 1 bag of mails. It was apparently no ones business to put Kuwait mails on board.

At the Kuwait end it is impossible to do much until the Field Post Office in Basra notifies us that the Civil Post Office is open and will accept Kuwait Mail bags coming up by land route - we for our part would then make our own arrangements to convey outward mails to Basra and bring back inward mails. This is the old procedure and applies to air mail letters as well.

The disappointment felt by Europeans here as regards mails may be instanced by the fact that a certain lady has heard nothing from home since December 27th while others have had no letters from their children in the United Kingdom for over 3½ months.

/59. Cable and Wireless.

59. CABLE AND WIRELESS LTD.

On the 16th May Mr. Head, Engineer-in-Charge, Cable and Wireless was able, with some difficulty, to get touch with Bahrain and the outer world by means of a light wireless set - the property of the Kuwait Oil Company.

He informed the writer that he would accept only telegrams from the Agency, His Highness the Shaikh, and the Kuwait Oil Company, as he had not the staff for the moment to deal with anything more.

It was later arranged that Mr. Head should accept telegrams for despatch from a limited number of merchants provided the Shaikh recommended this and his Secretary collected the fees, and made himself responsible for handing over the money to him at the end of each week.

In the meantime Mr. Head is going ahead with the work of erecting two wireless masts in the centre of the town while the building of his office is progressing satisfactorily. He reports that he is somewhat held up by lack of material (expected early in June).

At the end of May, His Highness the Shaikh working in conjunction with this Agency arranged for the Iraqi Postmaster in Kuwait to hand over the Post Office to the Superintendent of Indian Post Offices (who is in Kuwait) and for the whole of the Iraqi staff to be repatriated to Basra.

The Superintendent of Post Offices has opened a temporary Post Office in the Town and accepts letters for India and beyond, but not for Iraq, if and when a mail steamer arrives.

The above arrangements are makeshift, and Kuwait will get no proper communication with the outside world until the overland postal service to Basra is once more functioning, and the land telegraph line is working with Basra.

See para 76. 60. IRAQI REFUGEES. (see 2nd Appendix I page 12.)

On 17th May many cars arrived with a number of

/refugee

refugee Basrawi notables and their families. They had fled from Basra and brought down most of their moveable possessions including their wealth in coin, notes and securities. Chief of these visitors were the Iraqi Deputies Seyed Mahmoud Naama and Seyed Hamid Beg Al Naqib.ˣ Both were accompanied by a large number of ladies, and the latter brought with him also the family of the late Seyed Talib Basha al Naqib. Each succeeding day brought more of these refugees, and mirabile dictu, the wives and families of Abdulla Sagar, Mohamed Al Ghanim and Mohamed Thunaiyan erstwhile revolutionaries who took part in the Kuwait troubles of two years ago and were exiled, have all come back, but without their menfolk!!

ˣ e.g. para 79(b&c).

House rents in Kuwait have naturally soared and as much as Rs. 1500 has been offered for a year's rent, and Rs. 30 and Rs.40 per month has been offered for a humble dwelling. Some alarm was caused among the poor of Kuwait who were renting houses for Rs.5/- and Rs. 6/- per month, as they feared they would be turned out. Before harm was done His Highness the Shaikh passed an order that no house owner had the right to evict a tenant in favour of an Iraqi refugee family.

The refugees brought marvellous stories of dreadful happenings in Basra, especially the women and their panic talk did a certain amount of harm to the good name of our British soldiers who were made out to have been amused spectators when up country tribal budmashes entered the Ashar and Basra bazaars and proceeded to loot without interference. The writer gathered from various talks with men refugees that fear of further looting was the immediate reason for their flight to Kuwait, but running close was their desire to keep out of a bad business and so avoid reprisals from Arab nationalists who might get into power later. Another argument was that if they had stayed in Basra the British Army authorities would have required them to assist in establishing a local Government and maintain law and order. This they all believed would have led to the fanatical "futuwa" elements, still at large in Basra, sabotaging their house and garden properties and possibly even hiring assassins to murder them: (Hamid Beg actually suffered a lot this way). Nor must it be forgotten that the Baghdad radio from the commencement of the Rashid Ali rebellion

/daily

346
349

5.

daily passed out threats of vengeance on any Arab who in any way assisted the British. Small wonder that many families lacking in courage, preferred to get out of the country, believing too as they do that the British Army will again march away and leave them to their fate.

A curious thing about these refugees is the fact that all seem to be genuinely hypnotized with the belief that nothing on earth can stop the German Army in its step by step advance to the east. Mrs Dickson (the writer's wife) found this especially marked among the ladies and women folk of the better class refugees (all of whom she met). They distractedly told her that when Hitler was ready for his next jump and had perfected his plans, then it would be Syria and Iraq's turn to go under. Nothing could save them.

c.f. para 79.

The writer has been at special pains to try and counter this defeatist talk, which smells strongly of German origin, and has got His Highness the Shaikh to promise full co-operation. The Shaikh was at first inclined to put such talk down to "chicken hearted panic" but realized that the cumulative effect of same was as good as any fifth column activity.

A list of refugees now in Kuwait is attached.

61. AMERICAN EMPLOYEES OF THE KUWAIT OIL CO. LTD.

c.f. paras 83 & 92(c).

On 15th May, Mr. Patrick (American drilling Superintendent) received a cable from the Gulf Company New York, transmitted through the British Consul-General there, via the R.A.F. wireless attached to this Agency, advising him and Mr. Sass (Resident Geologist) to leave with their families by American ship due at Bahrain shortly, if they considered this step necessary for their safety. Both officials interviewed the writer who told them that there was not the slightest need to take an alarmist view, and that the situation locally was entirely satisfactory. Mr. Scott, the General Superintendent, however, who accompanied them thought it better if the Political Resident's advice was sought. This was done by telegram. At the same time the Political Resident was asked to try and get the American Minister at Baghdad's reaction. No reply has been received from the latter to date (31.5.41).

/In

In order to find out what the Americans at Dhaharan (Hasa) were doing in the matter Mr. Sass visited Mr. Ohliger of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company on 27th May. He returned on 30th May after travelling by the overland route in both directions, by permission of H.M. the King of Saudi Arabia.

Both American officials with their wives are still in Kuwait.

It is opined that had Kuwait been in touch with the outer world, the above disturbing telegrams need not have been sent.

62. THE AMERICAN MISSION.

On 15th May the Rev. De Jong arrived in Kuwait from Bahrain in place of the Rev. Pennings who recently went on leave to the U.S.A. The Rev. De Jong travelled by a local sailing dhow with his car and all his kit owing to uncertain steamer sailings. He took 5 days over the journey and landed at Shaibah 32 miles south of Kuwait, as head winds prevented further progress. The Rev. De Jong had to walk 10 miles to Abu Halaifa the next village, where he found a car which brought him to Kuwait. His kit arrived next day. Mrs. De Jong and family are in India having left Bahrain some days back.

On 20th May Rev. Van Ess of Basra sent an urgent request to Rev. De Jong for money. Funds were duly supplied by overland route. In a subsequent letter Rev. Van Ess explained that he could get no money in Basra and required funds for his colleagues as well as more for himself to enable him to pay his passage to the U.S.A. Rev. De Jong is the Mission's Treasurer in the Gulf.

63. DEPARTURE OF SOME KUWAIT OIL CO. LADIES & FAMILIES.

On the 19th May and in accordance with arrangements made by Major Galloway ( New Special Service Officer Basra), a party consisting of the following left Kuwait for Basra by car.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott, child and Ayah.
Mr. and Mrs. Robinson and child.
Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre and baby.
Mr. and Mrs. Falconer and baby.

They were accompanied by the Kuwait Oil Company's head-guard Mirshid Al Shammari and two other Company guards, also

/by

by one of the Shaikh's patrol cars (mounting a Lewis gun) from Jahara as far as Safwan. They were met by an escort sent by the General Officer Commanding Basra which saw them through to Maqil.

There were no incidents on route. The party sailed by S.S. Ekma that evening for Bombay.

On 21st May Mr. Scott and Mr. Falconer returned to Kuwait, being again escorted by the Kuwait Oil Company's guards from Safwan to Kuwait.

Mr. Scott was able to recover and bring down five bags of mails with him which had apparently lain some three weeks at Basra.

64. KUWAIT-SAFWAN ROAD.

This by the middle of May was considered completely safe, as a result of the Shaikh's car patrols; and the taking over of Safwan Police Post by a detachment of Sikhs and the establishment of another post at Jabal Sanam.

65. OPERATIONS OF KUWAIT OIL CO. IN KUWAIT.

cf para 83.

Boring has continued steadily throughout May on oilwell No.7 in the Burgan area and on water experimental wells Nos. 10 and 11 in the vicinity of Kuwait, in spite of all rumours of war, and the wildest stories emanating from Baghdad about the victories of Rashid Ali's forces over the British.

The Badawin world can be congratulated on having accepted all such stories at their true value, which can be put down in the main to the efforts of the Shaikh of Kuwait as far as local Arabs are concerned and to the steadying influence of King Ibn Saud in the interior.

On 25th May 1941 the writer took Mr. Scott to see His Highness in connection with the rise in the cost of living and the means proposed to help Kuwait Oil Co. labour. Mr. Scott proposed to help the Indian artizan staff by selling them rations at a fixed cheap rate (the Company bearing the loss between the buying and selling rates) and Kuwait labourers by a grant of 2 annas a day extra pay. His Highness demurred at the latter

/and

and asked Mr. Scott to make it 3 annas, he guaranteeing to help when the time came to knock off this increase. Should a further rise occur in cost of food His Highness promised to do his part in assisting by declaring a moratorium in the matter of divers debts to Naukhadars. This should help Kuwait Oil Co. labour considerably.

66. BAGHDAD BROADCASTS.

These for the fornight under review have broken all records for downright lying and spreading of false news. They have nevertheless tended to ~~seen~~ alarm some people in Kuwait in spite of their having over and over again been proved to be lies. For instance on 16th May a great and bloody battle was supposed to have been fought at Shaibah to the advantage of the Iraqis. Similarly the British suffered a heavy defeat at Qurna, a British warship was captured on the Hamar Lake, a British General committed suicide, Habbaniya was on the point of surrender, Major Glubb had been killed, and even Trans-jordan had been invaded by the Iraqi Army. Such broadcasts really defeated their purpose, as local anti-Shaikh elements embroidered them to such a ridiculous extent as to render them absurd. For instance the Badawin world 150 miles south of Kuwait had reports sent out to them secretly and obviously by the anti-Shaikh party that His Highness had fled to Riyadh, and the writer had been seized and sent as prisoner to Rashid Ali.

67. SAUDI ARABIA.

On 17th May a report from a reliable source said that Naji Suaidi (Iraq Minister of Finance) left Riyadh again for Iraq via Nasriyeh. According to Badawin sources this personage had been sent by Rashid Ali to try and persuade the King to give aid to the Iraqis in their battle for freedom but the King had absolutely refused to assist either by men or money and had sent the worthy Minister away with a flea in his ear.

The wells at Hafar Al Batin have been allotted as follows for the summer. One third to the Sh[illegible]ar tribe and one third to the Dhafir and one third to the Mutair.

/ On

350
(353)

On 14th May orders were sent out by car to all Saudi frontier posts in the north instructing local commanders to prevent Saudi tribesmen from going up to Iraq for supplies, and incidentally loot.

The King is reported to be keeping up his Sphynxlike silence about happenings in the European war, where his tribesmen are concerned. This has led to several Mutair, Ajman, Bani Khalid and other Shaikhs visiting the writer in search of latest news.

On 27th May the writer received a letter from H.M. King Bin Saud (dated 22nd May) in which the latter expressed pleasure at the news that his friend was once again H.M's Political Agent in Kuwait. He wished him all success from himself, the Amir Saud and other members of the family.

Some anxiety was felt at end of May among the Awazim tribesmen, because their leading Shaikhs who had gone on their annual visit to the King, had not been permitted to return home.

Shaikh Abdul Majid son of the late Shaikh Khazaal of Mohommerah visited Riyadh via Kuwait on 20th May. He returned on 30th May with a car and other presents given him by the King and went straight on to Basra. It is said that Abdul Majid asked if he could bring his brothers and their families to Riyadh from Basra.

68. VISIT OF BRIGADIER MARTIN.

On 25th May Brigadier Martin accompanied by Col. Pert. RE arrived by air from General Headquarters Basra to examine Kuwait's port and landing facilities. The writer took them to call on the Shaikh and afterwards passed them on to Mr. Scott who took them over Shuwaikh depot, to Asherij point south of Kadhama, and to Maadaniyat near Magwa. They returned to Basra by air in the afternoon.

69. LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Calls were made by the writer in the second half of May on Shaikhs Ali Khalifah, Abdulla Al Ahmad, Abdulla Jabir /and

and Salim Al Hamud. Three calls were made on His Highness the Ruler.

Most of Kuwait's large overseas sailing fleet have now returned from India, and the remaining few are due.

One boat sailing alone reported having been boarded off the Persian Coast by a party of armed men, who forced the Captain to hand over supplies of tea, coffee, and sugar - a sign of the times. The Shaikh has not yet brought the incident to this Agency's notice.

Some sailing boats carrying cargo to Basra from India got only as far as Fao, for the many British warships etc. in the river there, induced them to turn about and make for Kuwait, where cargoes were unloaded.

Some 15 large "sambuks" have gone to the pearl banks also some 50 smaller craft. There is not much enthusiasm for the "getting of pearls" this year. The world war is obviously the cause.

Muscat Intelligence No9 para 110

The motor yacht which was built under the Political Agent's supervision, for His Highness the Sultan of Muscat was completed halfway through May and sent off to Muscat under charge of a hired crew. Its safe arrival has been reported.

Two Kuwaitis Haji Shimlan and Abdulla Zabin returned from Baghdad on 20th May. They got back with great difficulty via Samawa and the desert route. They reported that whereas when they first reached Baghdad there was fanatical enthusiasm among the people and especially among the youth party (Futuwa) for Rashid Ali, when they left despondency had set in and all were "beating their heads" (in private) at the folly of the rebel Government.

The Shaikh has ordered his tribal "fidawi" (levy) force to come up from Saudi Arabia (where they had hoped to summer) and camp at Jahara for the hot weather. They are mostly Ajman tribesmen (Sulaiman section) under Amir Haif bin Hajraf. Their camels will remain in the "Summan" region where grazing is good.

/An

11.

An influential party in Kuwait with Seyed Hamid Beg Al Naqib as their latest convert (in secret) openly advocate that His Majesty's Government should never allow Basra to go back to Iraq. Such move they say would insure that Iraq never again played the traitor. They favour an early declaration to this effect in order to win over Basra's influential elements and generally bring about an atmosphere of confidence.

70. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

NIL.

71. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 112°
Minimum temperature 80°

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson.
Lieut.-Col.,
Political Agent Kuwait.

3rd June 1941.

353
(356)

12.

# APPENDIX I.

List of notable refugees from Iraq who arrived about 20th May '41.

1. Seyed Hamid Beg Al Naqib .. "Iraq Deputy" - (Important personage of much influence). — With family, also late Seyed Talib Pasha al Naqib's family.
2. Haji Mahmoud Al Naama "Iraqi Deputy" and his son Ahmad (Customs Dept) (Important with great influence) — With family.
3. Rajab Al Naama. - Asst. Director of Customs. — With family.
4. Abdul Mahsin al Shamiti. Landlord. — With family.
5. Abdul Aziz Bassam " (Important - of considerable influence). — -do-
6. Hamad Al Bassam Merchant. — -do-
7. Majid Salumi Christian merchant. (Proprietor, National Cinema Basra) — -do-
8. Salim 'Abid - Jewish moneylender (Milli mairs) — Single.
9. Shaikh Sabah Al Muhammad Al Sabah, of Zubair & Kut Al Zain — -do-
10. Shaikh Mohammad Al Ahmad Al Subah - His Highness' son & Agent in Basra. — -do-
11. Mohammad Saleh Al Khalil - Merchant. — -do-
12. Abdul Aziz as Salim Al Badr. " — -do-
13. Abdur Rahman as Salim Al Badr " — -do-
14. Gurji Jew. Small merchant. — Single.
15. Thomas Sakka - Singer Agent for Basra. — -do-
16. The family of Shakir Haniya - Proprietor of Ice Plant in Ashar.
17. The family of Abdul Ahad - Christian Merchant.

----------

Note:

(a) A further 50 (non-important) persons (single) arrived in Kuwait on 23.5.41 and another 100 in Zahara on 24th May 1941 where they hired quarters.

(b) Also about 40 originally from Kuwait, now settled in Basra (non-important).

(c) One of Seyed Hamid Beg's sons Ahmad by name left home by order of Defence Ministry and joined the rebel army of Rashid Ali.

(d) Najmudin and Taufik, both sons of the late Talib Pasha Al Naqib also joined the rebels under orders from Baghdad. Both were educated at Oxford and were employed in the Basra Port in responsible positions.

-------

13.

## APPENDIX II.

1. The Secretary, Political (External) Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire
6. The Senior General Staff Officer (MI3), General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The General Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Basra.
10. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence, Colombo.
11. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, at Bahrain.
12. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, Basra.
13. The Political Agent, Muscat.
14. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
15. The Political Officer, Trucial Coast.
16. The Officer in Charge, H.M's Naval Base, Bahrain.
17. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
18. His Majesty's Vice Consul Khorramshahr.
19. The British Agent, Mukalla.
20. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (Through P.A. Bahrain).

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19...... | Initials. | SECRET 355 (350) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dist-n thro' pa ad 18/9 | Under Secretary... | | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ..........Committee | 12. ix | EC. | Ext 5483/41. |
| | Under Secretary... | | | Ext 5484/41. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | Ext. 5485/41. |

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summaries Nos 7, 8 & 9.

These Koweit Intelligence Summaries covering the period from 1st April to 15th May, are written partly by Major Galloway the Political Agent, and later when he seconded as Special Service Officer under G.H.Q at Basra, by Lt. Col. Dickson, the acting P.A. They cover Raschid Ali's coup d'etat, which caused uneasiness in Koweit, the price of the dinar falling to Rs 12/-; and the final rebellion, which led to various acts of lawlessness on the Koweit - Iraq frontier. The Sheikh, however, opined that a large force of British troops at Basra made Koweit safer than before.

It was reported early in April that the Karachi Marine Police recovered 6,500 sovereigns from a boom, after a 24 hour chase at sea. The boom was the property of two wealthy Koweiti merchants.

B 17 ix

G 15/9

J 16/9



17/9

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

At 1.30 during the night of 4/5th May a plane bound for Shaibah from Habbaniya crashed into the sea ten miles south of Bubiyan and 10 miles east of Falaicha Island. The pilot was picked up in an exhausted condition, but the two other occupants, one of whom was Squadron Leader Pope-Slade, have not been found.

The pearling season was due to begin about May 25th. The 'salaf' of the divers has increased by Rs 10/- on last year owing to the higher cost of living. Not more than fifteen large boats ~~will go~~ would be going to the banks, but the number of small ones would be about the same.

For Information

M. Galgero 9/9

It is interesting to see that the Persian community at Koweit are all very pro-British.

E.W.R. Lumby.
11.ix.41.

SECRET.

No. 9 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May 1941.

49. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 6th and 8th 'planes arrived and left the same day.

On the night of the 4/5th an R.A.F. 'plane bound for Shaibah from Habbaniya lost its way and crashed into the sea at 1.30 a.m. about 10 miles south of Bubiyan and 10 miles east of Falaicha Island. The 'plane struck the water and sank immediately. The pilot and other occupant of the front seat, namely Squadron Leader Jope Slade managed to get out and swim, but a third man was trapped inside and sank with the machine. The pilot was sighted by the Nakhuda of a Kuwait water "Bum" who picked him up in a very exhausted condition, but no trace could be seen of either Squadron Leader Jope-Slade or the sunken 'plane. The sailing boat landed the pilot in Kuwait at 7 p.m. that evening.

A proper search was immediately organized by this Agency on the 8th May to try and locate the sunken 'plane. Two launches with drag nets and ropes as well as pearl divers spent five days searching in the vicinity of the spot where the man was picked up, which spot was buoyed. Unfortunately they were not rewarded with success. A reward has now been offered of Rs. 200 for any fisherman locating the wreck. The Nakhuda who rescued the pilot assisted in the organized search. This Agency has now recommended to the R.A.F. authorities that an aeroplane co-operating with mine-sweepers (from Fao) take up the search.

50. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 8th Lieut.-Col.H.R.P. Dickson, CIE., took over as Political Agent, Kuwait, from Major A. C. Galloway, OBE., who left for Basra by air the same day to take up appointment as Special Service Officer under General Headquarters, Basra.

(b) On the 1st May Mr. Weatherbe, King's messenger, who was on his way from Khorramshahr to Bushire landed here during the ship's stay.

/51

51. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) A considerable amount of excitement was caused in the Town on May 2nd when the sudden news of the shelling of Habbahiya by the Iraqi rebels became known.

His Highness the Shaikh at once decided to return to Kuwait (with all his family) from his spring camp at Baiyan.

His Highness was naturally disturbed at the turn events had taken in Iraq, but opined that the large force of British Troops in Basra had made Kuwait safer than it had been for some weeks previously, when the proximity of Iraqi troops on the frontier at Safwan and Jabal Sanam had caused a certain amount of uneasiness to be felt in the town, more especially as it became known that Iraq officers at Safwan had talked of a sudden "sweep" on Kuwait as being a possibility.

(b) On the 13th a small raid took place on the Mutla Pass and some 4 camels were carried off belonging to wood-cutters. In consequence His Highness ordered 20 men with cars mounting machine guns to proceed to Jahra, and to patrol north from there to prevent further incident. He also ordered all Kuwaiti Bedouin camped on water in the northern half of the state to retire south.

On the following day, 14th May, a report came in that 5 Iraqi shepherds of the Zoba tribe had been murdered near the Rodhtain 15 miles south of Safwan. The Shaikh's patrol cars at once visited the spot and brought in details. Since the above events quiet has reigned everywhere and the Basra road has been rendered safe not only by the Shaikh's patrols but by the location of a small British force at Safwan.

The above incidents are a good example of how the Bedouin world at once reacts, if they think there is a breakdown of authority - in this the looting in Basra was quite sufficient to start them off.

(c) On the 9th May the local Post and Telegraph Office which is run by Iraq, closed its doors. No amount of persuasion from the Political Agent would induce the terrified Postmaster

/to

3.

to function for fear of reprisals by his Government at a later date, though for a brief period he promised to work. Mr. Head of Cable and Wireless is working on a small wireless set belonging to the Kuwait Oil Company, and hopes to make connection with Bahrain shortly. This at the time of writing. (Later he managed this).

(d) Mishari Al Hillal accompanied by Khalifah Al Ghanim with two cars left for Bahrain by the overland route.

(e) As is customary when a new married Political Agent takes over, calls were paid by Mrs. Dickson during the 2nd week of May on Lady Ahmad, His Highness' sister, the Shaikha Mariam, Shaikh Mubarak's daughter, and on the families of Shaikh Salim Al Hamud, Shaikh Abdulla Jabir, Khan Bahadur Mulla Saleh and others. All expressed their felicitations "that Col. Dickson had occupied the Agency once again".

52. PEARL DIVE.

Boats are being oiled and got ready for the pearling season which commences about the 25th May. Divers have been given "salaf" or advance of Rs. 50/- and rope pullers Rs.45/-. This is an increase of Rs. 10/- on last year's figure and is due to the rise in cost of living. Not more than 15 large two-masted boats will go to the banks this year though the number of smaller boats will be nearly up to the usual figure.

53. Seyed Jawad the leading Shiah divine of Kuwait is spending a few days in the unused house of the late Shaikh of Muhammerah close to the Agency. The writer has called on him twice.

Some loose talk has been spread in the Town about his supposed anti-British feelings but this has been traced to the enemies of the Shaikh. The stories are of course entirely untrue, and Syed Jawad whom the writer has known for the last 12 years stands out as one of the principal supporters of the Shaikh.

Seyed Jawad is the head of the Persian Community here who are all very pro-British.

/54.

4.

54. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 13th S.S. "Roogh Silver Light" (Dutch) arrived and landed

3109 bags of sugar.

410 bags of coffee.

23 packages general merchandise.

55. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 109° |
| Minimum temperature. | 73° |

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson,
Lieut.-Col.,
Political Agent Kuwait.

20th May 1941.

SECRET.

No. 8 of 1941.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 16th to 30th April 1941.

42. AVIATION.

On the 16th, 17th, 23rd, 25th and 26th 'planes of the Royal Air Force arrived and left the same day.

45. ROYAL NAVY.

On the 19th H.M.S. "Leander" arrived and usual courtesy calls were exchanged between the Captain, His Highness the Shaikh and the Political Agent. The ship left on the 22nd. In a private letter to His Highness, the Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station expressed his great satisfaction at the kind welcome accorded to both officers and men of the ship by the local authorities, and said how much everyone had enjoyed their visit.

44. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 10th Revd. G.J. Pennings of the Arabian Mission, accompanied by his family, left for India en route to the United States of America.

(b) During the period under report Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE., visited Falaicha Island. It is interesting how this personage slips off to this retreat when the political horizon becomes clouded over.

45. LOCAL INTERESTS.

On the 16th Mails received from Iraq bore the seal "passed by censor" without being opened, but this did not continue for long. At the end of the month all letters, including the official mails for this Agency, received were found open.

46. SAUDI ARABIA. It is reported that there are now 18 new lorries at Hafar. They have been forbidden to come to Kuwait for provisions etc. These latter are being sent out to them. The garrison is ordered to keep a special watch on the Iraq frontier these days.

47. FOREIGN SHIPPING. NIL.

48. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 94°
Minimum temperature 57°
Rainfall - 1.095". The heavy rainfall of the 23rd which extended far to the south of Kuwait may be said to have saved the Badawin world from a very great disaster.

Sd. H.R.P. Dickson, Lt.Col.
for A.C. Galloway, Major.
Political Agent Kuwait.

8th May 1941.

(Distribution-Usual).

SECRET. No. 7 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for
the period from 1st to 15th April,
1941.

36. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 14th two aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. On the 6th an A.I.O.C 'plane arrived from Abadan with Mr. and Mrs. Scott and returned the same day.

37. ROYAL NAVY.

On the 15th H.M.I.S. "Lawrence" visited Kuwait.

38. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 3rd Monsieur Armin Daeniker, Swiss Charge d' Affaires at Tehran accompanied by his wife and Madam de Heidenstam and Mlle. de Heidenstam, wife and daughter of the Swedish Minister at Tehran, arrived by road from Basra. The party left on the 5th.

(b) On the 10th Mr. Timpson of the Gray Mackenzie Basra and Messrs. Gibson and Cole of the Iraq Petroleum Co. arrived from Basra. They returned on the 14th.

(c) On the 11th Mr. Groombridge, Representative of the Dunlop Rubber Co. in the Near East arrived from Basra and returned on the 14th.

39. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) It is reported that the Karachi Marine Police recovered 6,500 sovereigns from a boom after a chase at sea of 24 hours. The boom is the property of two wealthy Kuwaiti merchants, Thaniyan and Abdul Wahab bin Gitami.

(b) It is reported that a sailing craft has been seen adrift to the south of Muscat. No one was on board and it is believed that she was the victim of pirates.

(c) Hizam al Mishari as Sadoon visited the Political Agent on his return from Riyadh. Ajaimi as Sadoon is still at Riyadh. The purpose of the visit to Riyadh was not discovered but it is presumably to enlist Bin Sa'ud's help in the suit of the Sadoon against the Iraqi Government for the return



of/

362
(365)

-2-

of certain of their lands. In the last war Ajaimi was a loyal supporter of the Turks but according to reports does not now interest himself in politics.

(d) On the 13th Shaikh Muhammad, son of Shaikh Maishad al Habaiah of the al Ghazzi tribe from the north of Nasriyeh called. He spoke very freely against Rashid Ali and informed me that if His Majesty's Government would send an Englishman to lead the tribes of the lower Euphrates they would rise for the Amir Abdul Illah en bloc. As I had not met Shaikh Muhammad before I was considerably surprised that he should volunteer the above to me without any previous introduction, and I felt that he was endeavouring to lead me on the express opinions he might find useful to repeat elsewhere. In this he failed for he seemed to me to be most untrustworthy.

(e) The news of the coup d'etat in Iraq was received with apprehension in Kuwait and the bazaar was of course alive with rumours amongst which was the possibility of the landing of British troops in Kuwait. There was fear that the Iraqis might occupy the town. Actually beyond the introduction in Iraq of a postal censorship Kuwait has been unaffected though travellers are subjected to a rigorous customs search and interrogation by Iraqi military officers at Zobeir. The price of the dinar fell to Rs. 12/- which gives some indication of the nervousness of the leading merchants. These men act as bankers in Kuwait.

40. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 10th s.s. "Silverbeech" (Dutch) arrived and discharged 5,013 bags of sugar and 50 drums of vegetable ghee.

On the 15th s.s. "Yamabuki Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 4,016 bags of sugar and 675 packages of general cargo.

41. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 93 |
| Minimum temperature: | 60 |
| Rainfall | .634" |

Very/

363
(366)

-3-

Very heavy rain fell to the north of Kuwait on the night of the 5th closing the road for two days.

16th April, 1941.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

-2-

of certain of their lands. In the last war Ajaimi was a loyal supporter of the Turks but according to reports does not now interest himself in politics.

(5) On the 13th Shaikh Muhammad, son of Shaikh Mahhad al Mahaish of the al Ghazal tribe from the north of Nasiriyah called. He spoke very freely against Rashid Ali and informed me that if His Majesty's Government would send an Englishman to lead the tribes of the lower Euphrates they would rise for the Amir Abdul Illah en bloc. As I had not

-3-

Very heavy rain fell to the north of Kuwait on the night of the 5th closing the road for two days.

16th April, 1941.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual.)

cation of the nervousness of the leading merchants. ... act as bankers in Kuwait.

40. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 10th s.s. "Silverbeech" (Dutch) arrived and discharged 5,018 bags of sugar and 60 drums of vegetable ghee.

On the 15th s.s. "Yasukuni Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 4,016 bags of sugar and 675 packages of general cargo.

41. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 92
Minimum temperature: 60
Rainfall .654"

Very/

No. 6 of 1941.

SECRET.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March 1941.

30. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. Aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived on the 21st and the 29th and left the same day.

31. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph No. 24 (b) of Kuwait Summary No.5 of 1941.

Mr. Gibson left for Basra by car on the 16th.

(b) The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. C.G. Prior, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived from Basra by R.A.F. 'plane. He was accompanied by his Under-Secretary Mr. J. Croning MBE

The Hon'ble the Political Resident left Kuwait by car on the 29th for Basra en route Baghdad.

(c) The Naval Auxiliary Vessel "Zarang" visited Kuwait on the 19th and left the same day.

32. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) The Subah Shaikhs have been apportioning amongst themselves plots in the Town Main Square and some undignified quarrelling has taken place over the matter in public. They intend to build shops on their sites which they hope will let more readily than shops situated farther from the Cable and Wireless Station where the new Post Office is to be situated.

(b) From two houses and two shops on the night of the 28th small sums of money and some ornaments were stolen. This is a rare occurrence for Kuwait. So far the culprits have not been traced.

(c) On the 20th Shaikh Ahmad ordered the removal of the chains from the prisoners who were involved in the disturbances of 1939.

(d) Bin Sulaiman, a Secretary of bin Saud, has visited Qarya, Hafr and other frontier posts. He transferred some officials and discharged others.

(e) Yousuf bin Abdulla El Fuzan passed through Kuwait on the 18th on his way to Palestine, where, it is reported, he has been appointed Saudi-Arabian Consul.

(e) Three lorry loads of young fruit trees were sent through Kuwait on the 18th from Iraq en route to Riyadh.

34. FOREIGN SHIPPING. NIL.

35. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 84° |
| Minimum temperature | 49° |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent Kuwait.

2nd April 1941.

368
365

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 1941 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Distn. thus pa. AN 4/8 | Under Secretary... | | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ........Committee | 31.7 | RA | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | EXT 4375./41 |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

SUBJECT: Koweit Intelligence Summary No 5.

The Koweit Intelligence Summary for the first fortnight of March is submitted. It reports little of interest, except some comparative figures of sales of motor spirit and fuels to the Saudi Government and others, by merchants in Koweit, for dispatch to Saudi Arabia, which show an increase of 42300 gallons of motor spirit, 20634 gallons of Kerosene, 36824 gallons of gas oil, and 7645 gallons of lubricating Oil.

Orders have been issued by the State Authorities that all Koweiti sailing craft, returning from India, must be loaded with rice. The price of rice rose during this period to Rs 13/8/- a bag of Rangoon rice and Rs 16/4/- for 'Karachi' rice. The higher price for the latter ~~and~~ poorer –

B ... JWC 5/8



(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E.W.Ltd. Gp. 685

quality rice is due to the bedouin demand for it.

Twenty-two Sheikhs and others of the Harain confederation visited Koweit, it is believed in connection with the purchase of rice. They stated that they had been instructed not to visit the Political Agent, by Ibn Saud to whose instructions they adhered.

Thirty men were killed and a number wounded in a clash between Ibn Saud's chief herdman and the Sheikh of Mutair.

The Sheikh has agreed to the reservation by the Koweit Oil Company of land in extension of the present site at Shuwaikh for further development.

For information

M. Rodgers.
30/7.

E.W.R. Lumby
31. vii.

Secret.

No. 5 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th March 1941.

23. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 3rd and 15th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

Anglo Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. On the 10th an aircraft arrived from Abadan and left immediately taking Mr. McIntyre of the Kuwait Oil Company to Abadan for medical treatment.

24. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 7th Major A.C. Galloway, OBE., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Habbaniya and returned on the 10th.

(b) On the 14th Mr. Gibson of the Eastern Bank, Basra, arrived.

(c) On the 15th Mr. E. Main, Press Attache' of the British Embassy, Baghdad, arrived by road and returned the same day.

(d) On the 9th Mr. J.C. Parsons of Messrs African and Eastern Basra, arrived and left on the 11th.

25. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 5th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE., left for Basra by road.

(b) Reference paragraph 14 (a) of Kuwait Summary No.3 of 1941.

On the 8th Jamil Maruam passed through Kuwait on his way back from Riyadh.

(c) Reference paragraph 115 (e) of Kuwait Summary No.19 of 1941.

Some comparative figures of sales of motor spirit and fuels to the Saudi Government and others by merchants in Kuwait for despatch to Saudi Arabia are given below. It will be noted that the 'others' is a new trade, except so far as motor spirit and lubricating oil is concerned, and can be accounted for by the lifting of the blockade.

| | Gallons. | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1939. | 1940. | Increase |
| **Motor Spirit.** | | | |
| Saudi Government. | 67352. | 80928. | 13576. |
| Others. | 6628 | 35352 | 28724 |
| Total.. | 73980 | 116280 | 42300 |
| **Kerosene.** | | | |
| Saudi Government. | - | 5040 | 5040 |
| Others. | - | 15594 | 15594 |
| Total | | 20634 | 20634 |
| **Gas Oil.** | | | |
| Saudi Government | - | 26984 | 26984 |
| Others | - | 9840 | 9840 |
| Total | - | 36824 | 36824 |
| **Lubricating Oil.** | | | |
| Saudi Government. | 1643 | 6321 | 4678 |
| Others | 611 | 3578 | 2967 |
| Total | 2254 | 9899 | 7645 |



/(d)

2.

(d) Shaikh Abdulla Salim has been endeavouring to gain control over the fortune of Mishari al Hilal inherited from his father. The father was a pearl merchant and is said to have left over three million rupees. Mishari appealed to Shaikh Ahmad who sided with him because of a young sister whom he hopes soon to marry.

(e) Orders have been issued by the State Authorities that all Kuwaiti sailing craft returning from India must load with rice.

(f) The price of rice rose during the period under report to Rs. 13/8/- a bag for Rangoon rice and Rs. 16/4/- for "Karachi" rice. It is the bedouin demand for the latter which has caused its price to exceed that of the better quality rice.

(g) On the 11th Shirshab Shaikh al Bidoor, Fiza bin Hindal Shaikh, Bayif bin Hamood al Sowait of the Dhabir of Iraq and Shaikh Jirboo bin Abdul Mohsin of the Beni Khalid called on the Political Agent.

(h) It is reported that the local Ford Agent has been unable to purchase dollar exchange in Iraq owing to local restrictions.

26. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Twenty two Shaikhs and others of the Huraim confederation (Habitat between Hail and Taima) visited Kuwait. They stated that they had been instructed not to visit the Political Agent by Ibn Saud to which they adhered. None had been to Kuwait previously and it is believed that their visit was in connection with rice purchases.

(b) A clash is reported to have taken place on the 12th between Bin Shiblan, a Mutairi, and the chief herdsmen of Bin Saud, and bin Shogair ad Darweesh, Shaikh of the Mutair. The Amir of Jariya hastened to the scene and put an end to the fighting but only after 30 men had been killed and a number wounded. The cause of the clash is said to have been the refusal of the Mutair to obey Bin Saud's order reserving a certain pasturage for his own flocks.

27. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The Shaikh has agreed to the reservation by the Kuwait Oil Company of land in extension of the present site at Shuwaikh for future developments. In the past difficulty had been experienced in these negotiations but at this approach to the Shaikh all went smoothly.

28. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 8th S.S. "Kohuku Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 286 packages of general cargo.

On the 10th S.S. "Silver Laurel" (Dutch) arrived and discharged 8000 bags barytes, 1906 bags sugar, 454 bags coffee, 520 cases ghee, 14 cases foodstuffs, 45 drums ghee, 199 packages merchandise and 23 packages fruits.

29. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 80° |
| Minimum temperature | 54° |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th March 1941.

SECRET.

No. 2 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January, 1941.

6. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 18th and 22nd R.A.F. 'planes arrived and left the same day.

On the 31st a R.A.F. 'plane arrived from Bahrain with Air Commodore E.D. Johnson, AFC., and Wing Commander Boyce. They left for Shaibah after lunch.

7. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 18th Captain Cramer-Rogers arrived at Kuwait. He was in charge of a party which set out to reconnoitre on behalf of Middle East Command the Amman - Kuwait road. The party split at Jahra and only Rogers came to Kuwait. The others proceeded to Iraq. One lorry owing to a faulty radiator was abandoned about 300 miles from Amman otherwise all was plain sailing I believe.

(b) On the 22nd Mr. R.R. Head, Engineer-in-Chief, Cable and Wireless Ltd., Kuwait, arrived from India by S.S. "Barpeta".

(c) On the 29th Captain A.C. Stewart, Secretary to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, who was en route to Khorramshahr, landed during the ship's stay at Kuwait.

8. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait did not hold the usual majlis at Id al Ghadir. I called on him in the morning after which he went out hunting.

(b) PERSIAN GULF FIGHTER FUND. Subscriptions so far collected amount to Rs. 60,450.

(c) Bin Saud gave Shaikh Subah Salim, the Commandant of Police, a Plymouth car on his return from Haj and to the Shaikh's wife a Packard and to his two young sons a car between them.

(d) It is reported that Bin Saud has refused to pay the account of two lakhs of rupees of Hamad al Humaidhi the Ford Agent as he considers the account excessive. In future he proposes to make out the accounts himself and pay Humaidhi, who is to continue as his agent, what he considers a fair figure.

(e) Shaikh Ali al Qassab of Iraq visited Kuwait on his way back from Haj. It is reported that he told the Shaikh that he would suggest to the Iraqi authorities that all cars should travel via Kuwait en route to Mecca as his return journey took him only six days, whereas via Najaf thirteen days has been spent on the journey.

(f) Two booms, the property of Musa bin as Shaikh and Khalid bin Muhammad as Saheem, were wrecked with the loss of all the cargo valued at some twenty thousand rupees between Bahrain and Kuwait. No lives were lost.

(g) A fight between 30 or 40 boys of the east and west quarters of the Town took place over a game of stealing puppy dogs. Many heads were broken and one boy lodged a complaint in the courts. Kuwaiti courts, however, will not take up cases in any way connected with dogs. In the old days the Shaikh could have settled the matter in public session.

/ (h)

2.

(h) Some Arab families who fled from Persia to Qatar some six years ago have applied to Shaikh Ahmad for permission to settle in Kuwait. They were informed that they might settle on Failakha but they refused. The matter is still being considered.

(i) Reference para 3(i) of Kuwait Summary No.1 of 1941.

Mohomad Ismail, the Indian smuggling racketeer, gave Yusuf al Marzook (who is in jail for his share in the disturbances of 1939) ten thousand rupees at finding him in his present straits. They are old associates in smuggling.

(j) Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak is now vieing with Fahad as Salim in making an exhibition of himself. He has already squandered most of the money saved up for him during his boyhood and recently he went to Basra where he stayed at the Shatt al Arab Hotel with his retinue. The Shaikh summoned the Subah youth and remonstrated at their extravagances, to which Fahad retorted cheekily as might be expected of him. In Basra Abdulla al Mubarak had his Buick painted white. This locally is of significance for it shows the regard in which Abdulla holds Ahmad, who considers himself the only person privileged to own a white car here.

(k) I hear that it is proposed that a section of the Kuwait Boy Scouts should walk to Bahrain via Hasa. They are not to start yet but to wait until the weather is warmer. Incredible as this may seem, it is true for one boy who has been suffering from fever has visited the doctor to learn if he is fit enough to join the party.

9. BROADCASTS.

On January 30th Berlin Arabic radio broadcast as follows:-

"The latest British oppression in Arabia is the taking over of the Postal administration in Kuwait which has been run successfully for so many years by the Iraqi Government".

10. FOREIGN SHIPPING. - NIL.

11. METEOROLIGICAL.

Maximum temperature - 81°

Minimum temperature - 35°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

1st February 1941.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 1 of 1941.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January 1941.

1. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 6th and 10th R.A.F. aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

2. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 1st Mr. A.Holman, CMG., MC., Counsellor to the British Embassy, Baghdad, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra by road and returned on the 4th by the same route.

(b) Mr. Hope-Gill of the British Embassy, Baghdad, accompanied by his wife, landed during the slow mail's stay on the 6th.

(c) On the 6th Mr. Fitz Henry arrived by air from Shaibah and returned by air on the 10th.

(d) The Revd. and Mrs. Adency arrived on the 8th and left on the 11th.

3. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference para 147(e) of Kuwait Summary No. 24 of 1940.
The sheep were released on payment of a tax of 100 fils per head.

(b) A sailing boat, the property of bin Saleeme, ran aground on Umm-al-Maradim isle. A launch was sent to her rescue.

(c) The Ruler and his cousin Shaikh Salim al Hamood were absent from Kuwait for a week on a hunting trip.

(d) It is reported that the people are beginning to show signs of concern at the increased sums taken by the Subah out of the Treasury.

(e) The State Doctor left for Syria to recruit one female doctor, and a midwife.

(f) Two more mooring buoys were placed at Shuwaikh on the shore side of the existing mooring buoy.

(g) The State exported free of Royalty about 100 boom loads of stones to Basra.

(h) Reference para 147(d) of Kuwait Summary No. 24 of 1940.
The quarrel between Shaikh Ali al Khalifah and Shaikh Fahad as Salim continues, and the last incident occurred when Fahad sent the Police to stop dancing at a certain house the owner of which had previously received permission from Ali. Fahad, besides being Treasurer, is chief of Police and seized this opportunity to display his authority by countermanding the order of Ali who is "Director of Security".

(i) Mohammad Ismail, the organizer of the smuggling of gold out of India, passed through Kuwait with his family on his way to Mecca on pilgrimage.

(j) On the 4th Izzat Jaffer, the Shaikh's aide, left for Syria.

4. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 31st S.S. "Mantai Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 523 packages of general cargo.

5. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 79° |
| Minimum temperature | 42° |

Sd. A.C. Galloway,
Political Agent Kuwait,

2nd January 1941.

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [٣٧٣ظ] (٧٤٨/١٢٦٤)

DISTRIBUTION:-

1. The Secretary, Political(External) Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf Bushire.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer,(MI 3), General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, at Bahrain.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203(GR) Squadron, Basrah.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. The Political Officer, Trucial Coast.
15. The Officer in Charge, H.M's Naval Base, Bahrain.
16. His Majesty's Consul Basra.
17. His Majesty's Vice Consul, Khorramshahr.
18. The British Agent, Mukalla.
19. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (Through P.A. Bahrain).

-----

| NOTES FOR REGISTRY. | | 19 | Initials. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Under Secretary... | 30.V | | EXTERNAL Department. |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | ...Committee | 2.vi | | |
| | Under Secretary... | | | EXT 2801/41 |
| | Secretary of State | | | |
| | Perusal ... ... | | | |

372
375

SUBJECT: Kuwait Intelligence Summary No 4.

The Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the second half of March, records that Fahad, one of the Salim brothers who are trying to oust Ali Al Khalifah from the post of Director of Internal Security, has been warned by his brother Abdulla not to interfere with matters which do not concern him.

A policeman accused, for the second time, of stealing, was removed by the police from the Court of the Qadhi, who had refused to take his bribe.

Izzat Jaffar, the late Secretary to the Sheikh is endeavouring to curry favour by broadcasting and writing laudatory articles on Kuwait

The new land law in Iraq may effect the

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
11 JUN 1941

(15146) Wt.17760/P.106 5,000 6/40 A.& E W.Ltd. Gp. 685

* settlement of the Subah Dalé Gardens.

M. Gelgero. 28/5

For Information

* I trust we will get the Date Garden question settled once & for all if we put Abdullah firmly back in his seat.

[initials] 30/4

[initials] 4/6

[initials] 10 vi.

[initials] 5/6

[initials] 11/6

SECRET.

No. 4 of 1941.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 28th March 1941.

17. AVIATION. Royal Air Force.

On the 17th, 21st and 24th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

18. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph No. 13 of summary No. 3 of 1941. On the 21st Air Vice Marshal H.G. Smart, OBE,DFC,AFC, and Mrs. Smart returned to Habbaniya.

(b) On the 24th Mr. Pennefather of His Majesty's Embassy Baghdad,arrived and returned to Iraq the next day.

(c) Major A.C. Galloway, OBE, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Basra on a short visit.

(d) On the 21st, The Turkish Parliamentary Delegation consisting of six members, accompanied by the Turkish Consul-General, Basra, his wife and the Turkish Vice Consul, arrived at Kuwait by road from Basra and returned the same day. The party was entertained to luncheon at the Agency.

19. (a) The Qadhi acquitted a policeman who was accused of stealing Rs. 20 from a shop for lack of evidence. A few days later the same policeman was again accused of a similar offence and this time the Qadhi refused to be bribed so Shaikh Subah as Salim, who is in charge of the Police,sent other policemen into the court and after a scuffle removed the accused. So the Qadhi lost his bribe and his prisoner.

(b) It appears that a split has occurred in the Salim faction for Abdulla has recently instructed his mischief making brother Fahad not to interfere in matters which do not concern him and to support the ruler. This new attitude is interesting and it is not yet clear what has caused it. Fahad still, however, continues to quarrel with Ali Al Khalifah on the slightest pretext.

(c) It is reported that large quantities of sovereigns are being smuggled from Saudi Arabia.

(d) A bedouin was publicly beaten and afterwards imprisoned for attempting to assault a bedouin woman near Kuwait.

(e) Izzat Jaffer late Secretary to the Ruler has been exercising his leisure in broadcasting and writing laudatory articles on Kuwait, doubtless with the object of currying favour.

20. IRAQ. The Iraqis are contemplating passing a law prohibiting land in Iraq being registered in the name of foreigners. It is not yet clear how this will affect the Subah Date Garden settlement.

21. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 18th, S.S."Yamahuzi Maru" (Japanese) arrived and landed 609 packages of general cargo.

22. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 82°

Minimum temperature 47°



Sd. A.C. Galloway,
Political Agent Kuwait.

2nd March 1941.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 24 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December 1940.

145. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 23rd and 30th aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

146. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 24th Mr. Pattinson, General Manager of the Anglo Iranian Oil Company accompanied by his family arrived by the Anglo Iranian Oil Company's tug "Herald" and returned on the 28th by the land route.

(b) Miss Dickson arrived at Kuwait on the 29th from Palestine on a visit to her brother Colonel Dickson.

147. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) A committee of two merchants and the State Doctor under the presidentship of Shaikh Abdulla Jabir has been appointed to select a site for a State hospital.

(b) The Majlis has passed a decree raising the customs duty by one half per cent. The proceeds are to be allotted to Public Health Services.

(c) The Shaikh has sent his womenfolk and two youngest sons on Haj. The party consists of about 40 persons in all.

(d) Reference para 129 (k) of Kuwait Summary No.21 of 1940. It is stated that the quarrel between Shaikh Ali Al Khalifah and Fahad As Salim is assuming serious proportions. Behind the personal quarrel is apparently the desire of the Salim brothers (Abdulla, Fahad and Subah) to oust Ali Al Khalifah from his position. They have control of the Treasury as it is, and with this they make free according to gossip. Certainly the grandeur of their new houses on the seashore would point to such a conclusion. Ahmad, characteristically, fails to take any action despite the fact that his own interests are involved.

(e) Three hundred and sixty sheep purchased by Kuwaiti merchants from the Nasiriyeh tribes have been seized by the Iraqi Police who state that the sheep are being exported illegally.

(f) Reference para 141 (b) of Kuwait Summary No. 23 of 1940. Haji Abdul Kareem Abul and Yusuf Al Khalid Al Abdul Latif have been appointed to the majlis in the places vacated by Thaniyan Al Ghanim and Khalid Az Zaid.

(g) A sailing boat, the property of Shaikh Salih Al Ibrahim, sank in the Khor Subhiyeh with the loss of one life while sheltering from the recent gale.

(h) During the month of December some 12,000 persons were vaccinated voluntarily against small-pox by the State authorities. Lymph for another 12,000 has arrived in Kuwait and the people continue to present themselves for vaccination.

148. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Bin Saud's Haj caravan this year is said to have consisted of seven hundred motor vehicles. It is also reported that he is collecting twelve thousand armed tribesmen at Mecca.

(b) Fuad Hamza arrived in Kuwait from Iraq on the 27th and left for Riyadh the same day.

(C) Reference para 141 (a) of Kuwait summary No.23 of 1940.

/Saiyid

375
(378)

2.

Saiyid Jamil Al Ravi with his family passed through Kuwait en route to Mecca.

149. B.B.C. Persian broadcasts.

The B.B.C. broadcasts in Persian are much appreciated by the Persian speaking Kuwaitis.

150. KUWAIT SULPHUR.

Reference para 66 (a) of Kuwait Summary No. 11 of 1940.

The American geologist who has returned from the U.S.A. says that Mr. Rhoades expects to commence operations for the extraction of sulphur in the spring. The finding of water may have the effect of speeding up these operations.

151. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

Reference para 123 of Kuwait summary No. 20 of 1940.
The third water well situated about 25 miles west of Burgan and 40 from Kuwait has now been drilled. The water is plentiful at 250 feet below sea level, but is hard though not particularly salty. Its composition is 3500 parts of solids to 1,000,000. Good potable water should have not more than 1000 parts solids. This water is therefore probably good enough for bedouin and flocks. The building of some form of reservoir at the well ~~is~~ suitable for use by the bedouin is being considered.

152. FOREIGN SHIPPING. NIL.

153. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 81° |
| Minimum temperature | 40° |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

January 2nd 1941.

SECRET.

No. 3 of 1941.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th February 1941.

12. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 1st, 12th, 14th and 15th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

13. MOVEMENTS.

On the 12th Air Vice Marshal H.G. Smart, O.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., and Mrs. Smart arrived from Habbaniya.

14. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 2nd Jamil Mardam (one time Prime Minister of Syria) accompanied by his family and Secretary, arrived from Iraq by road and left for Riyadh on the 4th.

(b) Shaikh Abdulla bin Thani brother of the Shaikh of Qatar arrived with his younger brother at Kuwait on the 6th February, and left for Riyadh on a visit to Bin Saud.

(c) Shaikh Hizan al Mishari as Saadoon of the Muntafik visited the Political Agent on his way to Riyadh. Bin Saud sent a special car for him.

(d) Nakhuda Ghanim bin Othman - see paragraph 141 (d) of Kuwait Summary No. 23 of 1940 - refused to alter his course to rescue six ship wrecked sailors when informed of their proximity in a jolly boat. The sailors eventually arrived at Kuwait and lodged a complaint in the Courts. The nakhuda was imprisoned but set free on bail. Eventually the case was quashed on the interference of some influential people, and is a good example of the working of justice in Kuwait. In the old days such an offence would have been punished by painting the offender black and having mounted him backwards on a donkey driven him through the bazaars.

15. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 5th S.S. "Steel Exporter" (U.S.A.) arrived and discharged 107 packages of general cargo.

16. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 74°
Minimum temperature 37°



Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent Kuwait.

February 17th 1941.

(No. 21) 70.

SECRET.

No. 23 of 1940.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December 1940.

139. AVIATION. Royal Air Force. On the 7th an aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

On the 10th an aircraft arrived from Bahrain with the Senior Air Staff Officer and Major Rose as passengers. They left for Shaibah the next day by the same 'plane.

140. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 5th the Hon'ble Lieut.-Col.C.G. Prior CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf accompanied by his staff, arrived from Bahrain in S.S. Nearchus. His Highness the Shaikh and I called on the Hon'ble the Political Resident on board. On the way out the Shaikh's launch broke down, and he was transferred to the Agency launch in a choppy sea. This irritated him so much that a day or so later he informed me that he had decided to sell his launch. He had much better sell the driver who started the engine up only the day before the boat was required after it had been laid up for a year or more. The Hon'ble the Political Resident returned the call at "Dasman". On the 7th the Subah family called on the Hon'ble the Political Resident. He left for Khorramshahr by the slow mail steamer S.S. Bamora on the 11th.

(b) Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company accompanied by his family, returned from Khuzistan on the 14th where he had spent three weeks' leave.

141. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 135 (b) of Kuwait Summary No.22 of 1940. On the 2nd Jamil Ar Ravi passed through Kuwait on his way back from Riyadh to Baghdad.

(b) After a long cessation the Kuwait majlis met again on the 7th.

(c) On the 8th Dr. H. Abella, a British subject and an eye specialist, passed through Kuwait on his way from Riyadh to Syria. He had been treating Bin Saud for trachoma.

(d) The Karachi (or Bombay) Police searched a boom under the captaincy of a Kuwaiti nakhuda named Ghanim bin Othman and found three thousand five hundred sovereigns, the property of Abdul Mohsin Kharafi and Mohommed Said, nailed to the hull by pieces of wood. The sovereigns were confiscated and the nakhuda fined one thousand rupees.

(e) A boom belonging to Abdul Wahab Al Khalifah Al Shaheen ran aground and was wrecked near Aden. The cargo was lost but the crew saved.

142. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) It is reliably reported that Bin Saud was made aware in the early part of the month of a plot to murder him during the Haj. An accomplice of the Sheriff family is stated to have given the plot away to the Amir Faisal, who reported the matter to Bin Saud. Those persons implicated were sent to Riyadh and several put to death and many imprisoned. Gossip persists in attributing the plot to the Amir of Transjordan and this is due to the rumour that Bin Saud has refused him permission to go on Haj this year. It is a change to have some new scapegoat, Britain usually has to play this ~~xxx~~. role.

(b) It is stated that the value of trade with Nejd is between two and three lakhs of rupees monthly.

143. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 6th S.S. "Yamabuki Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 5000 bags of cement and 326 bags of general cargo.

On the 12th S.S. "Anniston City" (U.S.A.) arrived and discharged 67 packages of general cargo.

144. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 79°
Minimum temperature 47°



Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

16th December 1940.

SECRET.

No.22 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November 1940.

133. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. Aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 19th, 22nd and 27th and returned the same day.

134. MOVEMENTS.

Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait returned on the 27th from a short visit to Habbaniya.

135. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 23rd Mr. Kettanah of F.A. Kettanah and Co. arrived to explore the possibility for opening a branch here. He left the same day for Iraq after having seen some leading merchants here.

(b) On the 21st Jamil Al Ravi, the Iraqi Consul at Jedda passed through Kuwait on his way to Riyadh.

(c) Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, returned from Falaicha after a stay there of about 26 days.

(d) His Highness Shaikh Ahmad accompanied by Shaikh Salim Al Hamood left on a shooting trip on the 23rd. During the trip he fell from his car which suddenly swerved to avoid a hawk. His Highness states that his youngest son who was with him fainted at seeing him lying on the ground, and remained unconscious for half an hour ! Young Arabs do not seem to be as stouthearted as their forbears.

(e) Shaikh Ali Al Khalifah had two Persians and one Nejdi brutally beaten for some petty fault. Actually what the fault was is not known but it is said that it was the theft of a piece of rope five yards long.

136. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Bin Saud now employs a special courier for his mail consequent on the loss of a bag between Jahrya and Kuwait on the 23rd.

(b) The Ford Agent in Kuwait who constantly goes to Riyadh has stated here that the British Government have paid Bin Saud one and a half million pounds in gold.

137. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 23rd "S.S. Bloemfontein"(Dutch) arrived and discharged:

5060 bags of sugar.
680 bags of Java coffee.
175 bags of black pepper.
330 cases of vegetable oil.

On the 23rd "S.S. Western Queen" (American) arrived and landed 56 packages of general cargo.

138. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 79°
Minimum temperature 59°
Rainfall during the period - 0.022".

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

1st December 1940.



(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No.21 of 1940.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th November 1940.

127. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 11th two aircraft flew from Shaibah and gave a demonstration of ground co-operation with armoured cars before the Shaikh and others.

On the 8th an Armoured Car Section manoevered from Shaibah and camped at Shuwaikh. In addition to the demonstration mentioned above, on the 12th a parade was held in the Town Main Square and thousands of Kuwaitis collected to look at the cars. The Section left on the 14th.

128. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph No. 119 (c) of Kuwait Summary No.20 of 1940.

On the 1st Air Vice Marshal H.G.Smart, O.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., accompanied by his family returned to Iraq by road.

(b) On the 4th Lieut.Col. J.F. Rooney, Residency Surgeon and Chief Quarantine Medical Officer arrived from Bushire by the slow mail. He returned to Bushire on the 11th by the same vessel.

(c) Mr. E. Groombridge, a representative of the Dunlop Rubber Company Limited in the near East arrived on the 5th on a business visit, and stayed two days.

(d) During the period under report Mrs. Scott, wife of the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, paid a short visit to Baghdad.

129. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Saiyid Ahmad Zaki Al Khayyat, Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, Iraq, accompanied by Mr. Bailey, Chief Engineer, and Saiyid Abdur Rezzaq Al Hasani, Secretary to the Director General, arrived on the 3rd November and left on the 5th. The visit was ostensibly to inspect the Post and Telegraph Office here, but it is believed that the real object was to examine ways of extending Iraqi influence in Kuwait through the medium of the Post Office.

(b) Shaikh Yusuf Yassin, Private Secretary to Ibn Saud, arrived from 'Iraq on the 3rd and left the same day for Riyadh. He and the Political Agent exchanged visits.

(c) The usual two minutes' silence was observed in Kuwait on Armistice Day. Kuwait did well by raising £.32 by the sale of poppies.

(d) Id Al Fitr was observed on the 1st in the usual manner. I called on His Highness the Ruler in the afternoon, and in the morning I paid the usual calls, except that I did not visit certain families which openly express anti-British sentiments. This action was the talk of the Town during the 'Id. Persons not visited protested and, of course, profusely expressed their innocence and demanded that I should call on them, which I agreed to do if they would be more discreet. It is of value to note the importance which families here attach to the periodical visits from the Political Agent.

(e) It is reported that Bin Saud has restricted the sale of petrol to private owners in Nejd to eight gallons a month.

(f) Reference paragraph No. 120(b) of Kuwait Summary No.20 of 1940.

The Shaikh has restored the cut imposed on the pay of the Customs Director.

(g) Shaikh Mohommed bin Isa Al Khalifah arrived at Kuwait by land on the 7th, and returned by the same route on the 9th. He was greeted and seen off with the usual honours.

(h) Shaikh Abdullah As Salim left for Failika Island on the 1st and has not yet returned.

-2-

(i) Some Hejazi merchants were caught while attempting to smuggle a large quantity of sugar and cardamoms out of Kuwait. The goods were confiscated and no punishment inflicted here, but on arrival at Riyadh the merchants were seized and opium and hashish discovered. The sentence of death passed by the Qazi has not yet been executed.

(j) The descendants of Mubarak consider themselves of superior grade to other Kuwaitis, but this was carried to excess when Da'age Al Ibraham, the son of one of Mubarak's daughters by a slave girl, severely beat the Town's Chief Custom Official for entering an office before him. Da'age was not even reprimanded.

(k) The weakness of the administration of Ahmad is portrayed in the following incident. Fahad As Salim the Treasurer, refused to cash a 'chit' signed by Ali Al Khalifah, the Director of Internal Security, because it was not countersigned by Abdullah Al Mubarak (formerly Ali's assistant) whom Ahmad had removed from office on the latter's return from Riyadh (para 114 (b) of Kuwait Summary No. 19 of 1940). The fierce quarrel which ensued, abuse going back to many generations, was ended by Ahmad who re-instated Abdullah bin Mubarak. Ali Al Khalifah is one of Ahmad's most loyal and influential supporters, and it is no wonder that Kuwaitis are often dissatisfied with their ruler.

(l) Kuwaiti Law Courts are finding it difficult to come to a decision in the following case. An Arab of the Barzan tribe, the blood of the pure members of which if drunk is reputed to have the power to neutralize the bite of a mad dog, is sueing an Arab for the price of a cup of blood. Before drinking the blood the Arab promised the Barzani a camel as reward, but now, being in good health, is only prepared to pay Rs. 10/-. The story is illustrative of the weakness of the Courts here.

(m) Bin Saud by inviting Ali Al Khalifah on the pretext of a private conversation into the lift in his palace at Riyadh gave him the fright of his life. Ali entered a small dark room,as he thought, but instead of the conversation he was suddenly shot up into the skylight on the roof ! Ali had not seen a lift before.

(n) The Shaikh has presented four scholarships for the Bahrain Technical School to be competed for by Kuwaiti boys. The first four boys have left for Bahrain.

(o) A number of Shaikhs have been out bustard hunting and on account of the good rains which have now fallen over the whole of Kuwait great things are expected of Allah in the way of providing bustard and truffles.

130. SAUDI ARABIA. The"Umm Al Qura" a Mecca newspaper publishes the following:

(a) All Haj taxes on Hajjis have been reduced by 25%.

(b) All Hajjis who travel via the Persian Gulf may disembark at Ras Tanura, the port of Saudi Arabia, from where cars are available for travel direct to Nejd and the Hejaz. Fees do not exceed Rs. 100 per individual.

131. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 12th S.S. "Akagisan Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 109 packages of general cargo.

132. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 98°
Minimum temperature 64°
Rainfall - General and good rain fell on the 12th 13th and 14th (1.094 inches in all).

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

16th November 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Secret.

No. 20 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to the end of October 1940.

118. AVIATION.
Royal Air Force. An aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 26th and returned the same day. Two aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 18th and returned the same day.

119. MOVEMENTS.
(a) Reference paragraph 105(c) of Kuwait summary No. 18 of 1940. Mr. and Mrs. Vallance left for Bahrain by the slow mail on the 16th.
(b) Reference paragraph No. 113 (a) of Kuwait summary No. 19 of 1940.
Colonel and Mrs. Dickson returned from Iraq on the 23rd.
(c) On the 29th Air Vice-Marshal H.G. Smart, O.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., and Mrs. Smart arrived, with daughter.

120. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference para No. 114(c) of Kuwait Summary No.19 of 1940. His Highness has ordered Rs. 400 as compensation which the father has not accepted.
(b) Acting on behalf of his brther, Shaikh Abdulla Salim, Shaikh Fahad as Salim as Director of Finance has decreased the salary of the Director of Customs by Rs. 50/-. No reason is given.
(c) On the 18th heavy rain fell in the area north of Jahra and to the south of Kuwait. There has been none in Kuwait yet.
(d) Shaikh Fahad as Salim has presented Shaikh Muhammad Al Khalifah with a station wagon and a lorry in return for the car that was presented to him when he visited Shaikh Muhammad last month.
(e) The Subah family is still split over the issue of the examination of the Treasury accounts. It is also reported that Mubarak's daughters are worrying Shaikh Ahmad for increased allowances.
(f) The bombing of Bahrain scared Kuwaitis, but has not changed appreciably their attitude towards the war. Many of the people still unaccountably believe in the wild promises of Hitler and Mussolini.
(g) It is reported that on October 22nd an unidentified steamer ran into a "boom" belonging to Abdulla bin Abdul Aziz Qatami. The boom and its cargo were lost, but the crew were saved.

121. DELHI PERSIAN BROADCAST. I have received an appreciative report from a Persian in Kuwait on the Delhi Persian Broadcast. He states that the announcer is efficient and surpasses the Berlin announcer both in the quality of his propaganda and his knowledge of literary Persian.

122. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.
The morning after the bombing of Bahrain the American Vice-Consul in Baghdad called on his Italian colleague who was somewhat doubtful of the glory of bombing Saudi Arabia, but at the same time told him that the Italian 'planes had been refuelled by a special submarine. An American calling on me the next day told me that he had heard on the New York Radio that a special submarine had refuelled the bombers. The speed with which the Italian story was spread abroad is worth noting.

123. Kuwait Oil Company. Reference paragraph No. 108(b) of Kuwait summary No. 18 of 1940.
The second water well has now been drilled and has produced ample and probably potable, water. A third well is now to be started a further five miles inland.

124. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 28th S.S. "Chile Maru" (japanese) arrived and discharged 61 packages general cargo.

125. Iraq. The Iraqis have now completed the re-establishment of a railway line to Jabal Sanani, and have also pushed on with work beyond Zobeir up to which point a line is now complete. The direction the line is now taking is towards Umm Qasr, or possibly to Fao or both. It looks very much as though the

2.

the establishment of a port at Umm Qasr is being pushed on with.

126. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 92°
Minimum temperature 58°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

October 31st 1940.

Secret.

No. 19 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th October 1940.

112. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 13th two aircraft arrived from Bahrain with Major Ross. He left the next day by the same means of transport for Shaibah.

Anglo Iranian Oil Company. On the 10th an aircraft arrived and left the same day taking Mrs. Pattinson and party to Abadan.

113. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 14th Col. H.R.P. Dickson, C.I.E., Chief Local Representative to the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by his wife, left for Basra by road on 10 days' leave.

(b) On the 2nd Mrs. Pattinson and her son, accompanied by a nurse and Mrs. I.M. Jones, arrived from Abadan by road.

(c) On the 3rd Mr. Mansukhani, an Intelligence Officer of the Karachi Customs, arrived here from Basra by road. He left for Basra on the 8th having visited a British India slow mail steamer on her arrival here from India.

114. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference para 106 (h) of Kuwait summary No. 18 of 1940. Shaikhs Ali Al Khalifah and Abdulla Mubarak returned from Riyadh. Four days after their return Ali Al Khalifah received a five seater, 1940 model, Buick car from Bin Saud.

(b) Reference paragraph 71 (g) of Kuwait Summary No. 12 of 1940. Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak has been replaced by Shaikh Abdulla al Khalifah.

(c) A young girl was run over and killed by a car driven by Khalid bin Yusuf Al Omar. The case is interesting as the father is demanding Rs. 3000 compensation as against the usual sum of Rs. 200.

(d) It is believed that no gold was smuggled out of India to Kuwait during the period of this diary.

115. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) A lorry loaded with goods valued at Rs. 11,000 was burnt out on its way to Riyadh during the period under report.

(b) Saudi Arabia is reported to have imported recently from Iraq more than one thousand camel-loads of rice and dates.

(c) It is reported that Bin Saud decided to rid Riyadh of prostitutes by deporting 20 women. However, he discovered that there were hundreds, and not only 20, so he gave up the attempt.

(d) Al Anood, Bin Saud's eldest daughter was recently caught by her father when she was dancing before her chauffeur. The chauffeur was immediately taken to prison and so that romance was nipped in the bud.

(e) Reference paragraph 89(iii) of Kuwait summary No. 15 of 1940. The rather disturbing report is, according to recent fully reliable figures, not strictly accurate. The average sales for export to Saudi Arabia calculated over a period of the last three months are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Petrol | 3075 tins. |
| Gas oil | 1314 tins. |
| Lubricating oil | - 5730 litres. |

The petrol figures work out roughly at 400 gallons a day, or ten gallons a day for 40 vehicles. This is not excessive. The gas oil is for Kharaj. Kerosene was first exported from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia in August this year, and for that month and September 2184 tins were exported. This is no export of aviation spirit.

116. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 1st S.S."Prussa" (American arrived and discharged 86 packages of general cargo.

2.

On the 6th S.S Bengalen (Dutch) arrived and discharged

100 bags coffee.
337 cases vegetable oil.
1 box operating table.

117. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 107°

Minimum temperature 68°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

October 16th 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 18 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th September 1940.

--

104. AVIATION.

On the 28th an aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

105. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph No. 87 of Kuwait Summary No. 15 of 1940.

On the 20th Major A.C. Galloway returned to Headquarters from India via Basra.

(b) On the 15th Mr. R.G. Daubeny, Under Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf left for Bushire.

(c) On the 19th Mr. C.R.L. Adrian-Vallance, Inspector of Education, Bahrain, accompanied by his wife arrived by slow mail.

(d) Reference paragraph No. 93 (b) of Kuwait Summary No. 16 of 1940.

Dr. A.L. Greenway returned by the slow mail on the 30th.

106. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Shaikh Abdulla As Salim went to Failika for five days.

(b) Reference paragraph No. 51 (h) of Intelligence Summary No. 8 of 1940.

The Kuwait Postmaster's grade has been lowered as from the 15th of this month and his pay decreased to Rs. 48/-.

(c) Reference paragraph No. 43 (a) of Intelligence Summary No. 7 of 1940.

A son was born to Yusuf Al Marzooq, the smuggler, who has been in jail since March 1939.

(d) Four Transjordani merchants arrived to buy piecegoods. It is said that their purchases amounted to one hundred thousand rupees.

(e) Izzat Ja'far, His Highness's Private Secretary, returned from Syria accompanied by Al Tobaishi, Bin Saud's confidential agent.

(f) Two small fires broke out in the town, but were put out after causing only slight damage.

(g) The Shaikh was complaining to me that a large number of Kuwaiti owned camels are stolen every year and removed to Iraq. He expressed himself unable to give details when I suggested taking the matter up. However, the matter is probably as he states.

(h) Shaikh Ali Khalifah, Director of Public Security, accompanied by Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak left for Riyadh on the 21st on a visit to Ibn Saud. The reason for the visit was to give Abdulla Mubarak an opportunity to make his peace with Ibn Saud. For some time past this young man has been getting too big for his boots - c.f. paragraph (g) of Kuwait Summary No. 12

2.

12 of 1940 - and on this occasion he thought fit to have flogged two lorry drivers of Bin Saud who had blocked a road with some petrol tins along which he wished to pass and who refused to remove them at his request. Shaikh Ahmed took no steps to punish Abdulla but agreed to send him to Bin Saud. Abdulla is Shaikh Ali Al Khalifah's assistant so he duly set off with his chief on a visit to Bin Saud and on arrival doubtless ate plenty of humble pie.

(i) The Pearl Diving season ended on the 27th.

107. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Reference paragraph No. 95 (iv) of Kuwait Summary No.16 of 1940.

The forces which Bin Saud has concentrated at Jarya and Hafr are still in those places.

(b) Trade with Nejd continues to be brisk, but it is reported that the prices of foodstuffs in Nejd and the Hedaz are still very high.

(c) Five cases containing a cinema-projector and accessories have arrived from America for Bin Saud, and are being forwarded to Riyadh. A Mae West picture may now be a more acceptable present than arms or cars.

108. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

(a) Burgan Oil well No. 5 was completed and "mudded off" at 4,782 feet. Work has started on No. 6 well, which is to be drilled about 3 kilos to the north of No.5.

(b) The first water-well was drilled about 5 miles to the west of Burgan and has been closed as the water found was too salty even for flocks. A second well, 5 miles to the west of the first one, is now being drilled.

109. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) Izzat Ja'far, His Highness' Private Secretary, told me that he took two French Officers from Syria in his car on his return to Kuwait ostensibly on a visit to Palmyra. On arrival there they disclosed their real intention and he took them to Rutbah Wells from where they hoped to make their way to Palestine.

(b) It is reported that huge quantities of sovereigns are smuggled out of India by every mail steamer. It is unpleasant to contemplate that the Karachi Customs suspect ship's Officers of being in the racket for they have been searching certain officers' cabins.

110. FOREIGN SHIPPING. N I L.

111. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature 114°

Minimum temperature 63°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent Kuwait.

1st October 1940.

SECRET.

No. 17 of 1940.





Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th September 1940.

---

99. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

On the 14th two aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

(b) Anglo Iranian Oil Company Limited.

On the 2nd an aircraft arrived from Abadan and returned the same day with Mr. Sharp.

100. Movements.

(a) On the 2nd Mr. N.J. Allison of the Kuwait Oil Company left Kuwait to join the Royal Navy at Bombay.

(b) Squadron leader J.R.B. Embling arrived from Basra on the 2nd and left the next day.

(c) Shaikh Abdulla as Salim returned from a short visit to Baghdad on the 10th.

(d) Dr. Midhat, the Berlin trained physician to Ibn Saud passed through Kuwait on the 26th August en route to Syria. He returned to Riyadh on the 5th September.

101. Local Interests.

(i) The grazing is so poor in the northern deserts that the Bedouin are having the greatest difficulty in keeping their flocks alive. Sheep can be bought in Kuwait for 3 annas while several truckloads of young camels have been brought from Jahra into the town where they were sold for Rs. 5/- or Rs. 6/- each. Many sheep are being fed on barley but owing to the Iraq export restrictions it is extremely difficult to obtain. A few weeks ago a bag of barley cost Rs. 2/4/- whereas the present price is Rs. 6/-. It has been estimated that unless there is rain by the middle of October approximately 75% of the sheep and goats will die of starvation. The shortage of grazing is said to be the worst for 10 years and the Nejdi tribes are thought to be suffering even more severely than those in Kuwait.

/(ii)

(ii) Pearls.

The catch is reported to be plentiful but the market is dull and the local pearl merchants are offering low prices.

(iii) Trade. A number of merchants from Riyadh and the Hedjaz have visited Kuwait for the first time and have made large purchases of general merchandize with the result that trade is flourishing.

102. Foreign Shipping.

N I L.

103. Meteorological.

Maximum temperature : 117°
Minimum temperature: 70°

15th September, 1940.

Sd. R.G. Daubeny,
for Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

SECRET.

No. 16 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st August, 1940.

---

92. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. An aircraft arrived on the 28th from Shaibah and returned the same day.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. An aircraft arrived on the 26th from Abadan with Mr. Sharp (Dentist to the A.I.O.C) as passenger and the plane returned the same day.

93. MOVEMENTS.

(a) His Highness and Shaikh Abdulla Salim have visited Falaicha Island several times during the last few days.

(b) Dr. A.L. Greenway, Agency Surgeon and Quarantine Medical Officer left by the B.I. mail steamer for India on the 22nd on short leave.

(c) Shaikh Fahad as Salim returned to Kuwait on the 31st having paid a short visit to Bahrain to congratulate Shaikh Muhammad on his safe return from Malta.

94. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(i) Reference paragraph 88(iv) of Kuwait summary No. 15 of 1940. The Majlis has not yet held another meeting.

(ii) The Kuwait Customs receipts for July were only Rs. 11,000. The average monthly receipts are Rs. 20,000.

(iii) Pearl Diving. A number of quite valuable pearls have been found by Kuwaitis including a large one which was sold to a Bahrain merchant for Rs. 10,000.

(iv) About 12 Bedouin families have built mud houses at Jahra and intend to give up desert life. This is attributed to the serious shortage of grazing which, during the period under review, has resulted in the loss of large numbers of sheep and goats.

95. SAUDI ARABIA.

(i) During July the Customs receipts at Jarya (Saudi Arabia) amounted to Rs. 40,000. They had previously not exceeded Rs. 8000 in any one month.

(ii) Owing to the scarcity of grazing and foodstuffs in Saudi Arabia Ibn Saud has abolished the customs duties at Jarya

for/

for 3 months with effect from the 15th August. This order applies only to the Bedouin, and merchants coming from Kuwait are still subject to customs duty.

(iii) Ibn Saud has placed an order for 500 white canvas tents and 250 banner poles in Kuwait. Work on the tents has already been started and the poles are being obtained from India.

(iv) Reference paragraph 89 (vi) of Kuwait summary No.15 of 1940. The forces mentioned are still at Hafr and Jarya and are kept supplied with food from Kuwait by two lorries which leave the town on alternate days. It has been reported that machine guns have been placed on the roof of Ibn Saud's house at Jarya though it is not known how long they have been there. There are strong rumours in Kuwait that Ibn Saud has concentrated a large force near the Transjordan border, and that he has been reorganizing his armed forces ever since the evacuation of Somaliland.

96. IRAQ.

On the evening of the 29th three Kuwaitis are reported to have been arrested by the Zubair Police for attempting to smuggle about 20 letters across the border.

97. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 29th s.s. "Mantai Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 19 packages of general merchandise.

On the 29th s.s. "Steel Ranger" (American) arrived and landed 245 packages of general cargo.

98. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 118°
Minimum temperature: 75°

Sd. R.G. Daubeny.
for Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd September, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

No. 15 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th August 1940.

86. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. On the 2nd and 3rd an aircraft arrived and left the same day.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. On the 1st an aircraft arrived from Abadan bringing Mr. and Mrs. Walker of the Kuwait Oil Company. It returned the same day.

87. MOVEMENTS.

On the 3rd Major A.C.Galloway left for India on recess.

88. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(i) Some Iraqis have brought four 5 ton trucks from Basra with the intention of running them between Riyadh and Kuwait. So far they have been prevented by the local authorities from plying them on the grounds that the drivers are not Kuwaitis and that no duty has been paid on the trucks.

A fifth lorry which arrived on the 12th from Zubair started badly by running over and killing a boy in the bazaar.

(ii) In spite of the large number of cars continually passing through Kuwait there is no public repair garage. The local Ford Agent hopes to open one in the near future.

(iii) A family of 6 Turks arrived from Japan en route to Basra on the 2nd by the B.I. steamer. The mother, a woman of 60 years of age, was admitted to the Mission Hospital and died on the 7th. The remainder of the family left for Basra.

(iv) Reference paragraph 83(c) of Kuwait Summary No. 14 of 1940. The Majlis which normally sits twice a week has not had a proper meeting for the last three weeks, and this is attributed to illfeeling resulting from the investigation of the Treasury accounts. It now appears that Shaikh Fahad was never formally appointed Treasurer and that he took charge of the accounts at the suggestion of his elder brother Shaikh Abdulla as Salim. The quarrel is one between members of the Majlis and not between the Shaikh and the Majlis.

89. SAUDI ARABIA.

(i) Mishallib bin Hadba died in Kuwait on the 12th. He was in/

٣

-2-



in charge of all Ibn Saud's motor vehicles and the King placed great confidence in him.

(ii) It is reported that petrol stores have been established during the last two months at the following places between Kuwait and Jedda :

(1) Jariya - 3000 gallons.
(2) Khsaif-Um-Aqla 1200 "
(3) Rimah. 1800 "
(4) Riyadh. (not known)
(5) Marat 1800 gallons
(6) Dwadmi 1200 "
(7) Muwaih - 1500 gallons.

(iii) The average quantity of petrol daily conveyed from Kuwait to Riyadh in Saudi trucks is now 800 gallons. Before Italy entered the war the daily average consignment was approximately 80 gallons.

(iv) It is reported that 90% of Ibn Saud's motor vehicles are Fords. The King Recently asked the Kuwait Ford Agent to transfer his agency to Ras Tanura. The Agent did not agree to the proposal.

(v) Every 4 or 5 days about 20 Saudi cars arrive from Riyadh to fetch supplies for Ibn Saud.

(vi) On the 10th seventeen trucks (with machine guns mounted) and about 250 Hedjazi troops arrived at Jarya and a similar number at Hafr. It is not definitely known why these men have been posted to these two places but it is evidently part of a general scheme as Ibn Saud has also strengthened his posts along the Iraq frontier. It has been suggested that these garrisons have been reinforced with Hedjazi troops merely to facilitate feeding them as there is a shortage of food supplies in the Hedjaz.

90. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

s.s. "Yamabuki Maru" (Japan) arrived on the 13th and discharged 120 packages of general cargo.

s.s. "Mobile City" (U.S.A) arrived on the 13th and discharged 237 packages of general cargo.

91. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 119°
Minimum temperature: 80°

16th August, 1940.

Sd. R.G. Daubeny.
for Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.



No. 14 of 1940.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st July, 1940.



81. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 23rd an aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

82. MOVEMENTS.

On the 27th Mr. R.G. Daubeny, Under Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf arrived by the slow mail from Bushire. He will remain in charge of the Agency office during Major Galloway's absence on recess.

83. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Pearls. The price of pearls is low and few merchants have left for the pearling banks to make early purchases.

The majlis has passed a new "Law for Divers" which will shortly be enforced.

(b) Drinking water. The fresh water tanks constructed by the water supply company were brought into use on the 18th. The company now sells 8 gallons for one and a half annas whereas previously the price was two annas or more.

(c) Reference paragraph 77(a) of Kuwait summary No.13 of 1940. Shaikh Fahad as Salim, on leaving Bahrain, was presented by Shaikh Muhammad al Khalifah with a Chrysler car. It is reported that while Fahad was away the opportunity was taken to inspect the Treasury accounts of which he is in charge. Shortages are said to have been found. A stormy meeting of the majlis followed at which the Subah took sides, Ali al Khalifah and the Mubarak faction supporting Shaikh Ahmad while Abdulla Salim defended Fahad. A settlement has not yet been reached in the dispute.

(d) A reliable source has reported that members of the pro-German party in the town have prepared some swastika flags. These are being kept in readiness for display when Hitler captures London.

(e)/

-2-

(e) Lafi ibn Muallith visited the Political Agent on the 23rd and reported the movements of tribes in the northern desert.

84. FOREIGN SHIPPING

On the 31st s.s. "Hoegh Silverdawn" arrived and discharged

530 bags of sugar
125 bags of coffee
100 cases of tea
320 cases general cargo.

85. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 122

Minimum temperature: 82

2nd August, 1940.

Sd. R.G. Daubeny.
for Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

30/45. 391 394

Confidential.

No. 13 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th July, 1940.

4521.

extract para 77(a) to appropriate file

75. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. On the 10th an aircraft arrived from Shaibah and returned the same day.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. On the 7th an aircraft arrived from Abadan and took Mr. L.D.Scott, General Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by his family, to Abadan. The party returned on the 8th by the same transport.

76. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 10th Major Rose and Captain Ross of the Air Headquarters Iraq arrived by air in connection with the defence of Kuwait and returned the same day by air.

(b) On the 3rd Mr. Greason Haworth, an employee of the California Arabian Standard Oil Company, Jedda, passed through Kuwait en route to Saudi Arabia.

(c) On the 6th the Revd. A.W.Adeney arrived by s.s. "Barala" and left for Basra by road on the 8th.

77. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 71(c) of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1940. On the 14th Shaikh Fahad as Salim returned from Bahrain by the s.s. "Bandra". To me he was full of praise of all things British, but in the bazaar he is reported to be blaming His Majesty's Government for the enforced stay of Shaikh Muhammad al Khalifah in Malta.

(b) The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company started to take sand from Kuwait again during the period under report.

(c) The wall round the Naif fort (the Kuwait arms store) has been repaired and raised and a rain water reservoir is being built inside. This will be filled with Fao water if necessary.

78. FRONTIER BOARD.

Reference paragraph 72 of Kuwait summary No. 12 of 1940/

-2-

1940. It was reported on the 8th that the board was removed.

79. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 7th s.s. "Yamahuzi Maru" arrrived and discharged 223 packages of general cargo.

On the 12th s.s. "Kamagawa Maru" arrived and landed 4,000 bags of cement and 135 packages of general cargo.

80. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 116

Minimum temperature: 78

There was a dust storm which lasted for 10 days at the beginning of the month. It was the worst within memory and tempers were frayed at the end of it. These storms are gradually getting worse owing to the ruthless pulling up of the the desert scrub.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

16th July, 1940. Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the ~~month~~ period from 16th to 30th June, 1940.

69. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. An aircraft arrived on the 21st, and returned to Shaibah the same morning.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. On the 17th an aircraft arrived from Abadan with Mr. and Mrs. Finding as passengers, and returned the same day.

70. MOVEMENTS.

Reference paragraph 65(b) of Kuwait summary No.11 of 1940. Squadron-Leader Embling returned to Basra by road on the 17th.

71. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 66(b) of Kuwait Summary No.11 of 1940. On the 24th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, returned from Baghdad by road.

(b) Reference paragraph 66(c) of Kuwait summary No. 11 of 1940. Mr. Niamatullah Farhadi left for Basra by road on the 18th.

(c) On the 23rd Shaikh Salman Muhammad al Khalifah of Bahrain visited the Political Agent on his way to Bahrain from the American College at Beyrouth. He came to Kuwait to invite Shaikh Fahad as Salim to Bahrain. Both left for Bahrain via Basra on the 24th.

(d) It is reported that a Kuwaiti boom was wrecked at Gurabari, near Karachi, during the period under report. There was only one survivor, a man from Lingah.

(e) The Municipality have cut a new road to the east of main bazaar. It almost joins the water front to the Town Main Square, and has made possible the institution of one-way traffic in the main bazaar. The road was opened by His Highness the Shaikh who was the first to drive along it.

(f) Kuwaiti schools have closed for the summer, and the teachers have left for their homes in Palestine and Syria.



It/

394
(397)

-2-

It is reported that many of the old masters have been dismissed and new ones are to be engaged. This happens every year, and assures lack of continuity of education. It is probable that the girls' schools will not be re-opened at all.

(g) Abdullah, the only surviving son of the late Shaikh Mubarak, is rebuilding his father's old castle at Sirrah. The castle is situated on a hillock in a commanding position some 10 miles to the south of the town. Mubarak kept it for his own private use, and would not entertain visitors there. Abdulla is assistant to Ali al Khalifah, and the rebuilding of the castle shows that he feels himself to be in a leading position in the Subah family. He is not too well disposed towards Shaikh Ahmad.

(h) There were wild rumours in the desert that London had been captured by the Germans. However, the Bedouin take comfort from the flights of R.A.F 'planes which they occasionally see, and also from the rig light at Burgan. They sensibly enough argue that if they see these things here, then probably what they hear is not true.

(i) There are reliable reports that Bin Saud is worried about the food situation in Nejd. It appears that supplies via the Red Sea ports are restricted with the result that the price of rice has risen in the desert to Rs. 40/- a bag. There is no doubt that there is a trade boom in Kuwait made possibly by the conclusion of the Kuwait - Saudi Agreements. One curious result of this is the revival of pony transport, for which many old ponies have been bought from Zobeir. The ponies carry the bags through the alleys from the Customs to the town main-square where the loads are checked, manifested etc. An old wire hauser some two hundred yards long has been fixed to the ground and is used for tethering the ponies. These are numbered as are the coolies and everything is very businesslike.

(j)/

-3-

(j) The young American Mission doctor, Scudder, acting in place of Dr. Mylrea who is on leave in India, approached His Highness the Shaikh on behalf of the imprisoned revolutionary and smuggler Yusuf Marzook. With no result, of course, unless His Highness' statement to me that on the retirement of Dr. Mylrea (due this autumn) he proposed to ask the Mission if they could send Dr. Thoms was prompted by Dr. Scudder's action. I understand that the latter has already been appointed to succeed Dr. Mylrea.

It is stated that the Revd. Pennings may be transferred this autumn. This would be welcome for his bible-shop is a casual meeting place of the hot-headed anti-Subah youths of Kuwait.

(k) Dr. Ahmad Hamudy, Saudi Arabian Director-General of Health passed through Kuwait en route to Baghdad.

(l) The Saudi Arabian students who were studying in Egypt have returned to Saudi Arabia via Kuwait.

72. FRONTIER POSTS.

Reference paragraph 40(ii) of Kuwait summary No.6 of 1939.

The frontier board was again put up on the 17th.

73. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 22nd s,s "Washingtonian" arrived and discharged 676 packages of general cargo.

74. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 119

Minimum temperature: 78

Sd. A.C. Galloway
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd July, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Secret.

No. 11 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th June, 1940.

64. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. On the 10th an aircraft arrived and left almost immediately to Shaiba.

(b) On the 11th an aircraft arrived and returned to Abadan the same day.

65. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Captain R.D. Metcalfe, Publicity Officer in the Persian Gulf, arrived on the 4th by road from Basrah and left the next day en route to Bahrain via Basrah.

(b) On the 15th Squadron-Leader Embling, Air Liaison Officer Basrah, arrived by road on a short visit.

(c) On the 12th Mr. R.O. Rhoades, a Director of the Kuwait Oil Company left for Basrah by road en route to the United States of America via Hong-Kong.

66. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 5th of June an agreement was signed by His Highness the Shaikh and Mr. Rhoades of the Eastern Gulf Oil Co. Ltd, a Company registered in London, for the exploitation of sulphur in Kuwait. The agreement provides for an option period of one and a half years to be followed by a concession for 75 years. Rs. 75,000 were paid for the option.

(b) On the 10th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, cousin to the Ruler of Kuwait, left for Basrah by road en route to Syria via Baghdad for medical treatment. It is now learnt that he has gone to Shakhlava near Mosul, and will not proceed to Syria.

(c) On the 11th Mr. Niamatullah Farhadi of the Persian Government Tobacco Monopoly Department - reference paragraph 61(a) of Kuwait summary No. 10 of 1940 - arrived from Bahrain by the slow mail-steamer. He is reported to have secured an order for one million cigarettes to be executed forthwith. He mentioned to a member of the Agency staff that he hoped to get another for three million in a few months time.

(d) During the period under report, the Postmaster Kuwait

published/

published a notice stating that with effect from the 19th instant he would close a mail-bag for Riyadh. This is for private as well as Saudi-Arabian Government correspondence.

(e) On the 6th, four men were beaten in the town main-square for thefts etc. they had committed.

(f) It is reported that three men of the Al Jina-at were fined two thousand rupees in India for attempting to smuggle out gold.

(g) The Oil Company report that they think that they can detect a certain amount of surliness amongst their local employees. If this is a fact it may possibly be put down to anti-British propaganda which may attribute the rise in price of certain foodstuffs to British activities, or some such twisted talk. The price of foodstuffs in Kuwait is reported to be lower than in Iraq or Bahrain.

(h) It is reported from a reliable source that Bin Saud's attitude towards Great Britain underwent a change after the visit of Khalid Ghatabi to Berlin. Old grievances are stated to have been aired and it is possible that a rosy prospect of a kingdom in the Near East was held out by the authorities there. A big 'pour boire' is also stated to have been slipped.

? When

(i) There are persistent rumours that Bin Saud is gathering his armed men round him. Kuwaitis think that he is preparing to raid them should the Germans succeed in an attack on Great Britain.

(j) Dr. Medhat, confidential physician to Bin Saud, passed through Kuwait en route to Syria during the period under report. It is said that he was in such a hurry that he would not even stop for a meal.

(k) It is reported that criticism was directed at the State authorities in the Majliss one day during the period under report. The criticism was connected with the control of the price of sugar. It is worthy of note that the criticism was levied by members of the first Majlis.

67./

-3-

67. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 7th s.s. "Chile Maru" arrived and discharged 451 packages of general cargo.

68. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 110

Minimum temperature: 78

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

16th June, 1940. Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

No. 10 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 16th to
31st May, 1940.

3213.

59. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 18th, 21st, 25th and 30th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. On the 29th an aircraft arrived, and left almost immediately after landing Mr. and Mrs. Scott who had gone to Abadan on a short visit.

60. MOVEMENTS.

On the 23rd Shaikh Yusuf Yassin, Private Secretary to King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud arrived from Riyadh and left for Iraq by road the next day.

61. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 16th Mr. Farhadi Niamatullah of the Persian Government Tobacco Monopoly Department arrived from Basra with a view to establishing a market for Persian tobacco and cigarettes. He called on the Political Agent on the 17th, and during conversation gave expression to very pro-British sympathies.

(b) A Nejdi was caught at Jariyah by the Saudi officials while attempting to smuggle £ 700/- in sovereigns from Saudi Arabia into Kuwait.

(c) On the 31st one son of about 12 years of age, accompanied by two younger brothers, of the Sultan of Lahaj passed through Kuwait on his way to visit Ibn Saud. The boys are returning from Cairo to their home.

(d) A letter has been received in Kuwait from St.John Philby in which he states that Bin Saud is openly becoming pro-Ally.

62. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Nil.

63. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 104

Minimum temperature: 78

Sd. A.C. Galloway
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd June, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

No. 9 of 1940.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May, 1940.

54. AVIATION. (a) Royal Air Force. On the 10th an aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived and left the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways. On the 10th an Imperial Airways Hannibal class aircraft landed at Kuwait for refuelling. The plane was eastwards bound, and was not to stop at Bahrain. It was probably on a test flight.

It was reported that this class of aircraft had been withdrawn.

55. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 50(c) of Kuwait summary No.8 of 1940. Archideacon and Mrs.Stewart left for Basra by road on the 2nd.

(b) Major R. Holmes left for Basra en route to the United Kingdom on the 6th.

56. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 51(a) of Kuwait Summary No. 8 of 1940. The four dealers have been released on payment of a fine of four hundred rupees each.

(b) It is reported that three Kuwaiti booms which were expected in Kuwait recently have not arrived. It is believed that they have been wrecked.

(c) A fight took place aboard a boom on her way back from India which resulted in the death of one man and the wounding of another.

(d) During the period under report the rate for sovereigns and gold coins which find their way to Kuwait from Saudi Arabia rose to as high as fifty eight rupees. It later fell to about forty rupees.

(e) His Highness the Shaikh has raised the monthly allowance of Shaikh Salim al Hamood, who is married to a daughter to the late Shaikh Mubarak, from Rs. 920/- to Rs. 1,200.

(f) Reference paragraph 35(d) of Kuwait summary No.6 of 1940. One of the water tanks has been completed, and four booms have been commissioned.

57. FOREIGN SHIPPING. Nil.

58. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 98 |
| Minimum temperature: | 67 |



17th May, 1940.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

401 (404)



Confidential.

No. 8 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th April, 1940.

2502
2323

(5)

48. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

49. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 26th an aircraft arrived and left the same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Mr. Sharp, the A.I.O.C dentist, left on the 21st by an aircraft and returned again on the 28th by the same means of transport.

50. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 30th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G.Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr. Daubeney, passed through Kuwait on the slow mail steamer.

(b) On the 19th Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by road en route to Baghdad. He returned on the 23rd.

(c) On the 30th Archideacon Stewart, Chaplain to the I.P.C at Kirkuk, accompanied by his wife, arrived from Basra by road on a short visit.

(d) On the 18th the Rev. A.W. Adeney arrived and left on the 20th.

51. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) The local authorities have imprisoned two Iraqi tribesmen for attempting to buy two thousand rounds of ammunition. The four dealers have also been imprisoned.

(b) Three Bedouin Shaikhs I have seen during the period under report have all been comparatively well informed of the cause of the war. All are quite sure that victory will be with the Allies.

(c) It is reported that Shaikh Fahad as Salim who is in charge of the Treasury has refused to draw his pay of six hundred rupees. He has demanded thirteen hundred, but no settlement has yet been reached.

(d) Reference paragraph 40(ii) of Bahrain Intelligence Summary No. 7 of 1940. Shaikh Hafiz Wahba's estimation of Mr. Philby is accurate, for while he casts aspersions on Squadron

Leader/

Leader Domvile behind his back, the latter speaks well of Mr. Philby's behaviour at the camp, especially of his attitude towards the airmen.

(e) Shaikh Naif al Hamood as Suwait reports that certain elements of the Beni Salama and al Barkat tribes are murmuring against the heavy taxation imposed by the Iraqi Government. These tribes inhabit the territory between Shinafiyah and Samawah on the right bank of the Euphrates.

(f) According to a Municipal regulation which has just been made all coolies must register themselves as such and owners of pack animals must register their animals. The fee is one rupee per annum per man or animal.

(g) Pearl diving. A few boats have left for the early diving season.

(h) The local postmaster has been fined thirty nine rupees found short by the Inspector. Some petty errors have been found and no punishment has been imposed. It is a mystery how the over-worked Postmaster carries on, let alone makes so few mistakes.

(i) Female education in Kuwait has received a set-back due to the fact that three school girls have been found pregnant. It seems that a number of girls have been taken from the school in consequence. Beyond the above no clear facts have come to light.

(j) Water-pipes are being laid to the site of the new barracks to be built just south of Zubair. It is stated that the barracks are to house the troops now stationed between Ashar and Margil.

52. FOREIGN SHIPPING. On the 25th the s.s. "Knoxville City" arrived and discharged 40 packages oil well accessories and 52 packages of general merchandise.

On the 27th the s.s. "Mantai Maru" arrived and landed 88 packages of general merchandise.

53. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 100° |
| Minimum temperature: | 72° |
| Rainfall | 0.10" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd May, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential. (4) No. 7 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 1st to 15th April, 1940.

40. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

41. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. On the 4th, 5th, 6th and 12th aircraft arrived and left the same day.

On the 2nd a section of Armoured Cars arrived from Shaibah on routine training, and left on the 9th.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

On the 4th a 'plane arrived with Mr. J. Jameson and left the same day. The 'plane returned on the 5th and took Mr. Jameson to Basrah en route to London.

On the 13th a 'plane brought an A.I.O.C dentist, Mr.Sharp from Abadan, and returned the same day. Mr. Sharp is staying about a week and will treat His Highness who is suffering from dental trouble.

42. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 5th Captain A.G.B. Wilson, RN, Lieut-Colonel F.W. Messervy and Major R.J. Baker-Cresswell arrived by air, and left the same day for Basra by road.

(b) On the 6th Major-General Beresford arrived by air, and left the same day.

(c) On the 9th Mr. C.R. Latimer, ICS, H.M's Vice-Consul, Bushire, arrived from Bahrain by the slow-mail steamer. He left on the 15th for Basra by road.

(d) Captain T. Hickinbotham, OBE, Political Agent, Muscat, arrived by slow-mail steamer on the 9th, and proceeded to Basra the next day by road en route to the United Kingdom on short leave.

(e) Reference paragraph 34(c) of Kuwait summary No.6 of 1940.

On the 9th Squadron Leader Domvile and Flying Officer Hudson arrived back from Riyadh, and left for Iraq by air on the 10th.

(f) On the 12th Captain G.H. Vaughan-Lee, RE, and Captain W.H.C. Travers, RE, arrived by air and left the same day.



(g)/

(g) Colonel Lamb of the British Military Mission in Iraq, accompanied by Mrs. Lamb, arrived on the 12th by road from Basra, and left on the 14th.

43. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 95(a) of Kuwait summary No.12 of 1939.

The mother of Yusuf Marzook petitioned me for the release of her son from prison. I explained to her that her son was a Kuwait State prisoner, and that her correct course would be to address the local authorities.

(b) Reference paragraph 35(b) of Kuwait summary No. 6 of 1940.

It is reported that General Nuri-as-Said put King Abdul Aziz wise concerning the two pilots, and offered to send properly trained men should he wish to make a change.

(c) Some of the leading merchants of Kuwait showed interest in the forthcoming visit of His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Bushire. They hoped that he would be able to induce British firms to give them direct agencies, and to change the system whereby they are given sub-agencies under an agent in Iraq.

(d) Subah Beg bin Nuri-as-Said visited His Highness the Shaikh on the 8th and 9th. The purpose of the visit was to take over a car presented to his father by King Abdul Aziz.

(e) An Inspector of the Iraqi Posts and Telegraphs Department arrived at Kuwait on the 5th and left the same day.

(f) His Highness the Shaikh left for his spring camp at Bayan on the 7th. It is expected that he will reside there for about a month

(g) On the 8th the local authorities ordered the flogging of two Bedouins for stealing a camel.

(h) In a letter received in Kuwait recently from Baghdad the sender stated that he had seen the following two sentences chalked on walls before they were wiped out by the Police. They read "Long Live Hitler, Killer of Cursed Insects", and "Long Live Hitler, Defender of 'Iraq".

44. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

One of the cars presented to the Amir Saud by His Highness was a white "Dodge", the loss of which His Highness was continually

bemoaning. I understand that the Directors of the Kuwait Oil Company took the hint, and will present him with another white car.

45. SAUDI ARABIA.

It is reported that the Saudi Government has sent eleven clerks to Jariya in connection with establishing posts in accordance with the terms of the Kuwait-Saudi Agreements. It is reported that six of the men are Kuwaitis.

46. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 2nd the s.s. "Liloa" (United States) arrived and landed 48 articles including motor-cars and spare parts.

On the 8th the "Yamabuki Maru" arrived and discharged

620 bales of piecegoods.
115 cases merchandise.
46 cases of matches.
4 bundles of tyres.

47. METEOOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 90 |
| Minimum temperature: | 58 |
| Rainfall | 0.1"". |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

16th April, 1940. Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.



No. 6 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 16th to 31st March, 1940.



32. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

33. AVIATION.

On the 17th an aircraft of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan with Mr. Jameson, a Director of the Kuwait Oil Company and Messrs. J.M. Pattinson and Mylles of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. as passengers. The aircraft returned on the 19th, and took the above mentioned persons back to Abadan.

On the 30th an R.A.F aircraft arrived and left immediately.

34. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 17th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived from Bahrain by s.s. "Nearchus". He left for Bushire, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr. Daubeney, by the slow-mail on the 22nd.

(b) On the 26th Wing Commander and Mrs. Culley arrived from Basra by road, and returned on the 29th.

(c) On the 30th Squadron Leader Domvile and Flying Officer Hudson arrived by air from Basra, and left for Riyadh by car on the 31st. to inspect the Riyadh landing ground in connection with the forthcoming visit of General Nuri as Said.

(d) On the 30th Mr. Paul Knabenshue, U.S.A. Minister in Baghdad, accompanied by Mr. Vice-Consul Porter, arrived by road from Dharan, and left for Basra on the 31st. During a call on His Highness he mentioned the progress C.A.S.O.C was making in Saudi Arabia. The subject was ill chosen as His Highness was at that time perturbed at the slow rate of progress of the Kuwait Oil Company.

(e) The state of the roads in Saudi Arabia is now such that Mr. Knabenshue thinks that Jahra-Kuwait-Basra would be a suitable regular leave route for C.A.S.O.C employees.

35. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 19th H.R.H. the Amir Saud, Heir Apparent of

Saudi/

Saudi Arabia, accompanied by his brother Khalid, arrived with a large following in about 50 motor vehicles on a visit to Kuwait. The latter, together with members of the Subah family and other notables, motored to the frontier to meet him. The Political Agent and the senior officials of the Kuwait Oil Company met him a few miles outside the town. Efforts were made at decorating the streets, but the results were not impressive. The people, however, turned out in large numbers and gave the party a cheering welcome. The visit was chiefly notable, so far as I could see, for the huge amount of food consumed. The members of the Subah family and leading notables all gave dinners and lunches, some even teas. The Political Agent gave a dinner on the eve of the departure of the party. The Political Agent, with the help of His Majesty's Embassy, Baghdad, was able to provide some cinema films for showing after the dinners on His Highness the Shaikh's projector. This action was much appreciated and the propaganda effect excellent.

Alms were distributed one day and so eager was the mob that one little girl was crushed to death in the rush. Another unfortunate incident was the knocking down of two children by a Saudi motor-car driver of whom one died. The driver was imprisoned but freed on blood money of Rs. 800/- being paid. These incidents failed to mar the festivities, though certain merchants must have felt a qualm when His Royal Highness told a number of them in the bazaar that King Abdul Aziz would view most seriously any indulgence in intrigues directed at upsetting the established order in Kuwait as had happened recently.

Many presents were given to the party and these ranged from wrist watches to horses. The most impressive was that of three motor-cars from the Shaikh. The party left on the morning of the 2nd April.

(b) An Iraqi named Hasan Hindi who obtained an "A" flying certificate in Italy recently, and when returning through Beirut to Iraq was reported by the French as a suspicious character, arrived in Kuwait on the 30th in the uniform of a second lieuten

Lieutenant of the Iraqi Air Force. He was accompanied by a second pilot. The two men proceeded to Riyadh to take up appointments as pilots to King Abdul Aziz. Hindi gave out in Kuwait that he had fled from Iraq for political reasons.

(c) The Kuwait Government will impose a new tax on ordinary sailing boats as well as on pearl-fishing boats. The tax is to be levied as under -

Annas 6/- per net tonnage on ordinary sailing boats per annum, and

Rs. 2/- per annum on pearl-fishing boats.

The receipts from this tax are to be utilised in building and repairing breakwaters.

(d) Reference paragraph 16(b) of Kuwait summary No.3 of 1940.

The scheme is progressing rapidly. Some of the boats are about to be finished, and the construction of the three reservoirs is well in hand. The capacity of each reservoir is estimated at 120,000 gallons.

(e) Reference paragraph 28(a) of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1940.

On the 5th March negotiations were concluded in respect of the Kuwait-Saudi Agreements. It was finally agreed that they should be brought into force 15 days from the above date, and prior to the signature in Jedda of the actual Agreements.

36. OIL INTERESTS.

The main object of Mr. Jameson's visit was in connection with His Highness' dissatisfaction at the failure of the Kuwait Oil Company to declare commercial production. His Highness realises that the difficulty is due to the war and has agreed to accept an advance against future royalties to be paid back after production has reached a certain stage.

37. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) On the 26th Lafi bin Khalaf at one time an ardent Ikhwani reported that the Arabs of Palestine were expecting help from Ibn Saud against the Jews. He was unable to be more explicit. He also stated that Abdulla Bey el Talib was in communication with King Abdul Aziz, and had promised assistance

should/

-2-

Lieutenant of the Iraqi Air Force. He was accompanied by a second pilot. The two men proceeded to Riyadh to take up appointments as pilots to King Abdul Aziz. Hindi gave out in Kuwait that he had fled from Iraq for political reasons.

(c) The Kuwait Government will impose a new tax on ordinary sailing boats as well as on pearl-fishing boats. The tax is to be levied as under -

Annas 6/- per net tonnage on ordinary sailing boats per annum, and

Rs. 2/- per annum on pearl-fishing boats.

The receipts from this tax are to be utilised in building and repairing breakwaters.

(d) Reference paragraph 16(b) of Kuwait summary No. 5 of 1940.

The scheme is progressing rapidly. Some of the boats are about to be finished, and the construction of the three reservoirs is well in hand. The capacity of each reservoir is estimated at 120,000 gallons.

(e) Reference paragraph 23(a) of Kuwait summary No.5 of 1940.

On the 15th March negotiations were concluded in respect of the Kuwait-Saudi Agreements. It was finally agreed that they should be brought into force 15 days from the above date, and prior to the signature in Jedda of the actual Agreements.

36. OIL INTERESTS.

The main object of Mr. Jameson's visit was in connection with His Highness' dissatisfaction at the failure of the Kuwait Oil Company to declare commercial production. His Highness realises that the difficulty is due to the war and has agreed to accept an advance against future royalties to be paid back after production being reached a certain stage.

37. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) On the 25th Lafi bin Khalaf at one time an ardent Ikhwani reported that the Arabs of Palestine were expecting help from Ibn Saud against the Jews. He was unable to be more explicit. He also stated that Abdulla Bey el Talib was in communication with King Abdul Aziz, and had promised assistance

should/

should an attack on Iraq be contemplated. His price was the land between the Samawah and Nasiriyah. Lufi seems still be be thinking in terms of the Ikhwan days.

(b) I asked the Amir Saud concerning the persistent rumour that Mr. Philby spreads news in a vein detrimental to Allied interests. He replied that Mr. Philby was an advocate of peace.

(c) The Amir Saud informed me that he thought it likely that General Nuri as Said would be flying to Riyadh shortly to discuss Iraqi frontier problems with King Abdul Aziz.

(d) Shaikhs Hantoosh Ibn Sowait of the Dhifur tribe and Smair Ibn Bedr from Zubair called on the Political Agent, but had nothing of particular interest to say.

38. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 8th March M.V. "Hoegh Silvercloud" arrived and discharged 4261 bags of sugar, 550 bags of coffee and 215 bags of black pepper.

On the 6th s.s. "Yadowawa Maru" arrived and discharged 435 packages of general cargo.

s.s. "Liloa", U.S.A. steamer, arrived on the 26th and landed 20 packages of motor cars and spare parts, and five cases of radio sets.

39. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 74 |
| Minimum temperature: | 48 |
| Rainfall | 0.14" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd April, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.





No. 5 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 1st to 15th March, 1940.



25. ROYAL NAVY. Nil.

26. AVIATION.

(a) Reference paragraph 20 of Kuwait summary No. 4 of 1940.

On the 2nd Sir John Ward with Mr. Van Ess of the Arabian Mission as passenger arrived in a Puss Moth from Basrah, and returned with Lady Ward the same day. Mr. Van Ess stayed a few days.

(b) On the 14th an R.A.F aircraft arrived and left the same day.

27. MOVEMENTS.

On the 6th Mr. Rhoades a Director of the Kuwait Oil Company proceeded to Basrah en route to Bahrain and Hasa on a short visit. Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, went to Abadan via Basrah in connection with affairs of the Kuwait Oil Company. Mr. Mr. Rhoades returned on the 15th and Mr. Scott on the 9th.

28. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 22 (b) of diary No. 4 of 1940.

His Excellency Shaikh Hafiz Wahba proceeded to Basrah by road en route to Baghdad on the 5th.

The Shaikh of Kuwait mentioned in the Majliss that the Kuwait - Saudi trade blockade would shortly be lifted. The merchants are pleased at the prospect.

(b) A Kuwaiti broker by name Abdul Aziz was given a carpet and certain other articles to sell and having sold them, instead of paying the money to the owner, kept it. He was duly tied up to the post in the town main square for a few hours as punishment.

(c) Latif bin Khalaf of the Mutair tribe came to see the Political Agent twice during the period under report, but had nothing of importance to say. He stated that the Arabs of Palestine looked to Ibn Saud for help, and also that a certain Abdulla Bey al Fabih had offered his services to Ibn Saud to stir up trouble amongst the Shammar in 'Iraq.

(d) Reference paragraph 22(a) of Kuwait diary No. 4 of 1940.

On the 5th Shaikh Abdullah Salim, CIE, returned from his visit

to/

to King Ibn Saud after a stay of 11 days. The King presented him with a seven seater 1940 Buick, and a large lorry. Shaikh Abdullah Salim was accompanied by Messrs Shamlan, Mohomad Abdul Latif and Hamood al Rodhan. The first two were presented by the King with one thousand rials each and Hamood Rodhan with Rs. 400/-.

I established during visits I paid the returned travellers the rumours that Mr. Philby was spreading abroad that the British were wrong in fighting Germany, and that peace at any price was his motto. So far as I could gather these opinions only confirmed his listeners further in their belief of the peculiarity of his mind. Like Yunis Bahri he seems to be regarded as a good joke.

(e) On the 8th Abdul Mohsin, a clerk in the post office at Kuwait left for Basra on sick leave. After his departure it was learnt that he owed a large sum of money to the merchants.

(f) On the 12th a fancily-dressed young man from Bahrain named Jabir bin Rashid al Khalifah called on the Political Agent and requested a letter of recommendation to the Iraq Broadcasting Authorities. He had with him a speech he had written, and kept close to his bosom, which he wished to broadcast to the Arab world to point out the evils of Nazism. He was convinced that this broadcast of his would silence Yunis Bahri. The youth was obviously not right in the head, but this did not prevent him from lifting from Jashanmal's shop in Kuwait a quantity of jewellery and some watches. The property was quietly recovered from him, and he was sent to Iraq the next day.

29. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The Company have granted two annual scholarships of Rs. 800/- each to the Technical School at Bahrain. Two Kuwaiti boys - Khalid bin Gharabaly and Ogal al Khatib, have been selected and have left for Bahrain.

30. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 3rd "Khuku Maru" arrived and discharged

2,000 bags of cement.
316 bales of piece-goods
69 cases of merchandise
20 cases of matches and
12 bundles of tyres.

On/

On the 7th m.s. "Yodogawa Maru" arrived and landed 455 packages of general cargo.

31. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 71 |
| Minimum temperature | 48 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

18th March, 1940.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

No. 4 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from the 16th
to 29th February, 1940.

19. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

20. AVIATION.

On the 26th Sir John and Lady Ward arrived in a Puss Moth from Basra. Lady Ward was coming on a short visit, and Sir John returned to Basra immediately.

21. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 25th Mr. R.O. Rhoades, a Director, and Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, proceeded to Basra to meet Mr. Jamieson, a Director of the Kuwait Oil Company and of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. Major F. Holmes, London Representative of His Highness the Shaikh also left for Basra.

(b) On the 26th Mr. R.G. Daubeney, Under Secretary to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived by the slow mail from Bahrain.

(c) On the 20th Mr. Ghulam Murtaza, Assistant Engineer, Independent Persian Gulf Sub-division, Bushire, accompanied by his family passed through Kuwait en route to Baghdad on leave.

22. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 23rd Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, left for Riyadh on a visit to King Ibn Saud.

(b) On the 25th His Excellency Shaikh Hafiz Wahba, Saudi-Arabian Minister in London arrived from Riyadh. Calls were exchanged between him and the Political Agent. On the 27th, negotiations between Shaikh Hafiz Wahba and the Political Agent were started with the object of settling the outstanding points of the three Agreements (already well advanced towards completion) designed to end the Saudi blockade of Kuwait, and to open up again Kuwait - Saudi trade. Discussions were still in progress at the end of the month, but it is hoped that agreement will soon be reached. The main outstanding point is of course "Musabala".

23./

-2-

23. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 16th s.s. "MOMOVAMA MARU" arrived and discharged

31 cases of merchandise
120 cases of matches
371 bales of piecegoods.

24. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 76 |
| Minimum temperature: | 49 |
| Rainfall | 1-87" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

3rd March, 1940. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION:-

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in 'Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203(GR) Squadron, R.A.F. Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. The Political Officer, Trucial Coast.
15. The Officer-in-Charge, H.M's Naval Base, Bahrain.
16. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
17. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
18. The British Agent, Mukalla.
19. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (Through P.A. Bahrain).

Confidential.



6



No. 3 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 1st to
15th February, 1940.



13. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

14. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. Royal Air Force aircraft arrived from Shaibah on the 3rd, 4th and 7th.

15. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 3rd the Hon'ble Lieut-Col. C.G. Prior, C.I.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr. R.G. Daubeney, left for Muscat in the s.s. "Nearchus".

(b) On the 3rd Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by an R.A.F aircraft. He returned to Kuwait the next day.

(c) On the 4th Mrs. Wooldridge with her two children arrived from the United Kingdom via Basra on a short visit.

(d) On the 8th Mr. R.O. Rhoades, an American citizen and a Director of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived from Basra by road.

16. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) During the period under report a large number of pilgrims returning from the Haj passed through Kuwait.

(b) It is proposed to form a syndicate with a capital of a lakh of rupees, half of which is to be subscribed by some of the leading merchants and the other half to be met from the Kuwait Government funds, to bring water from the Shatt-al-Arab and to retail it in the town. It is proposed to build a large reservoir. Up to now the water carrying trade has been conducted through private enterprise.

17. FOREIGN SHIPPING. Nil.

18. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 66. |
| Minimum temperature: | 48. |
| Rainfall | 0.6" |

18th February, 1940.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.



No. 2 of 1940.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January, 1940.





7. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

8. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

On the 22nd an aircraft arrived from Shaiba and returned the same day.

9. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 20th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary, Mr. R.G. Daubeney, arrived from Bushire by s.s. "Bamora".

(b) On the 19th Mr. H. Weightman, ICS, Political Agent, Bahrain, arrived by an aircraft of the Imperial Airways.

(c) On the 22nd Mr. H. Weightman, ICS, Political Agent, Bahrain, and Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra. Major A.C. Galloway returned to Kuwait on the 26th.

(d) On the 23rd Major F. Holmes arrived from the United Kingdom via Basra.

10. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Reference paragraph 4 (a) of Kuwait summary No. 1 of 1940. Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, returned from Baghdad on 22nd.

11. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Nil.

12. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 68 |
| Minimum temperature: | 38 |
| Rainfall: | 0.44" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd February, 1940.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

No. 1 of 1940. FILE COPY

INDEXED

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January, 1940.

P.Z. 752 1940

1. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

2. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. On the 8th and 12th aircraft arrived, and left almost immediately.

On the 13th a flying boat arrived for water borne wireless testing, and left the same day.

3. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 10th Mr. F.W. Humphrey of the Cable and Wireless Company arrived from Karachi, accompanied by Mr. Portsmouth, a telephone engineer from Cyprus. Mr. Portsmouth left for Basra on the 14th.

(b) On the 11th Revd. A.W.Adeney arrived from Basra on a short visit.

4. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) On the 12th Shaikh Abdulla Salim, CIE, accompanied by Shaikh Abdulla Mubarak, left for Baghdad, it is reported, for medical treatment. He had been suffering from kidney trouble for some time, and in July last year visited the Lebanon for treatment.

(b) Reference paragraph 155(a) of 1939. The wireless telephone set which was not at first working properly is now in order and has been used by His Highness the Shaikh for talking with Ibn Saud in Riyadh, and also for addressing the people of Kuwait. It is hoped later to use the set for propaganda purposes in Kuwait.

5. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 5th s.s. "Puerto Rican" (American) arrived and landed 184 packages of iron-work, and 182 packages of general cargo.

On the 8th "Kamogowa Maru" (Japanese) arrived, and discharged 10,000 bags of cement, and 438 packages of general cargo.

On the 14th "Mantai Maru" (Japanese) arrived and discharged 410 packages of general cargo.

6. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 70° |
| Minimum temperature: | 42° |
| Rainfall | 0.45" |

16th January, 1940.

Sd. A.C. Galloway
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual)

Confidential.

No. 24 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1939.



152. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

153. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

On the 22nd an aircraft arrived, and left the same day.

On the 27th an armoured car section arrived from Shaibah for training exercises. The section returned on the 29th.

154. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 19th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G.Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr. R.G. Daubeney, left Kuwait for Bushire by the s.s. "Bamora".

(b) On the 20th Mr. William Pieter Wolterbeek, Netherlands Trade Commissioner, arrived from Basra. He left Kuwait on the 22nd.

155. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 148(a) of Summary No.23 of 1939.

On the 23rd His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait returned from his visit to King Ibn Saud. A large number of cars met him some 40 miles out, and a crowd collected to receive him in the town. There was a well-attended war dance during the afternoon in the town main square.

King Ibn Saud presented the Shaikh with three motor cars a wireless telephone set and thirty Thompson guns. "for gangsters"

(b) During the period under report several students of the Mubarakiya struck work, due, it is reported, to the fact that the Headmaster insisted on cutting half of the composition lessons and allotting the other half to religious studies. After 4 days the parents tendered apologies to the authorities and the boys returned to school.

(c)/

419
422

-2-

(c) It is reported that Messrs Abdulla Mulla Saleh, Omar Salami, the State doctor and some others propose to form a company with a view to the opening of an hotel.

156. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Nil.

157. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 67 |
| Minimum temperature: | 38 |
| Rainfall | 0.5" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd January, 1940.

(Distribution as usual)

30/45. (2)

23

7785/39.

4 - JAN 1940

F.O. D.M.I. D.N.I. A.M.

420 (423)

SECRET.

No. 23 of 1940

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December, 1939.

145. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

146. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

On the 2nd and 11th aircraft arrived with stores for the wireless operators, and left almost immediately.

147. MOVEMENTS.

Reference paragraph 141(a) of diary No.22 of 1939.

On the 12th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G.Prior, CIE., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr. R.G. Daubeney, arrived by the s.s. "Nearchus".

148. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 142(a) of diary No. 22 of 1939.

At the end of the period under report His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait was still at Riyadh.

(b) Reference paragraph (f) of diary No.22 of 1939.

On the 5th three grocers who had failed to declare their stocks of sugar were tied for one morning to the pole in the town main square as punishment.

149. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

(a) One of the members of the Arabian Mission whose wife was a German subject received a letter from his sister-in-law in Berlin dated 7th November. She states that she is unable to leave as she wishes and therefore has to spend her time visiting the Museums etc. She adds that there is no apparent shortage of food in Berlin nor in Hamburg where she recently was.

(b)/

-2-

(b) A resident of Kuwait who recently returned from England informs me that she found a magazine written in English in her bedroom in an hotel in Venice in which was an anti-British propaganda article. The article set out to expose the wickedness of the British in oppressing the Arabs and gave as the villains Colonels Fisher and Daly, and Captain Glubb.

150. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

On the 11th the s.s. "Yamabuki Maru" arrived and discharged

8,000 bags of cement
163 cases of merchandise
65 cases of matches
670 bales of cotton piecegoods.

151. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 72 |
| Minimum temperature: | 54 |
| Rainfall | 0.19" |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

16th December, 1939.

(Distribution as usual)

SECRET.



15 DEC 1939

No. 22 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November, 1939.



139. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

140. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

On the 23rd an aircraft arrived, and left the same day.

On the 23rd an Armoured Car Section of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah for training exercises. The Section returned on the 25th.

141. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 21st the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf left by the s.s. 'Nearchus' on tour to the Trucial Coast and Bahrain.

(b) Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, spent the 25th, 26th and 27th on a visit to Shaikh Subah an Nasir near the Saudi-Kuwait frontier some miles north of the Hafar road.

(c) On the 23rd Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company with his family left Kuwait for ten days leave in Khuzistan.

(d) On the 23rd Wing Commander Savile from Air Headquarters, Iraq, and Lieut-Colonel R. Merry, OBE, Officer Commanding the Iraq Levies, visited Kuwait.

142. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait left for Riyadh in the morning of the 29th to visit King Abdul Aziz.

(b) On the 20th Shaikh Khalid al Muhammad as Sabah arrived from Zubair on a visit to His Highness the Shaikh. He left at the end of the month.

(c) Hawking has been popular during the month.

(d) On the 23rd a lorry was searched at the main Kuwait gate, and five bags of sugar found hidden in bundles of carpets.

The/

423
426

-2-

The sugar and the lorry were confiscated and the chief would-be smuggler punished by flogging.

(e) The Advisory Council is now holding regular bi-weekly meetings.

(f) The Kuwait Government have decided to purchase all stocks of sugar brought here for local consumption, and to retail it at fixed prices to grocers. Merchants may now sell sugar to purchasers for consumption abroad at rates to be fixed by themselves.

("Putting out the eyes of five conspirators")

(g) The recent punitive action taken by the Shaikh of Dubai was discussed freely in Kuwait , and there is a feeling, however unfounded, that His Majesty's Government have acquiesced in this cruelty. While it has disgusted many people, would-be agitators have taken salutary note of the matter, for they think it possible that the like might happen to them unless they are careful.

143. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Akagisan Maru" arrived on the 13th and discharged 184 packages of general cargo.

The Italian steamer "Mauly" arrived on the 18th and discharged 215 packages of pipes etc. for the Kuwait Oil Company.

144. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 80° |
| Minimum temperature | 52° |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

2nd December, 1939.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

No. 21 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from the 1st to the 15th November, 1939.

132. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

133. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

On the 2nd an aircraft brought some spare parts for the R.A.F. W/T set installed at the Agency, and left immediately.

On the 6th two aircraft arrived from Basra, and returned the same day.

On the 12th an aeroplane of the Royal Air Force arrived, and left same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

On the 3rd and the 5th aircraft of the A.I.O.C arrived at Kuwait, and left immediately.

Imperial Airways.

The land-plane service of Imperial Airways is now scheduled to call at Kuwait bi-weekly both eastbound and westbound.

134. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 127 of summary for October, 1939.

On the 4th the Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf returned to Kuwait by car from Basra.

(b) On the 6th His Excellency Sir Basil Newton, KCMG, British Ambassador in Iraq, arrived by air. Calls were exchanged between the Ambassador and His Highness the Shaikh. The rest of the day was spent in visiting the bazaars and ship yards and a lunch party was given at the Agency.

(c) On the 3rd Mr. Pattinson, General Manager of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived by air, and left on the 5th.

135. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Id-al-Fitr was observed on the 12th, confirmation

of/

425
(428)

-2-

of the appearance of the moon having been heard in a broadcast from Egypt. War dances and a small fair were held in the Main Square of the Town. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and the Political Agent called on His Highness during the afternoon of the 12th.

(b) B.I. slow mail steamers now call weekly at Kuwait both on their inward and outward voyages.

(c) A few drops of rain fell on the 12th.

(d) Shaikh Nawwaf bin Nuri as Shalan arrived from Syria en route to visit his brother-in-law Bin Saud.

136. SAUDI-ARABIA.

Arrangements are being made to send Saudi mails for Riyadh via Kuwait in future.

137. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. Kohuku Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 31st October, and discharged the following cargo:

8,000 bags of cement.
150 casks of white cement.
395 bales of cotton piecegoods.
82 cases of general merchandise.

138. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 82°
Minimum temperature: 60°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
16th November, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution as usual).

Confidential.

Nos. 19 and 20.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the month of October, 1939.

125. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

126. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

An R.A.F. aircraft brought from Basra on the 18th, Captain Dobson and Quartermaster Sergeant Booth of the Iraq Levies. The plane returned to Shaibah the same day. Captain Dobson and Quartermaster Sergeant Booth returned to Basra by air on the 21st.

Two aeroplanes of the Royal Air Force visited Kuwait in the last half of October - one on the 27th, and one on the 28th.

127. MOVEMENTS.

The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel C.G. Prior, CIE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived on the 3rd by s.s. Barora. The Political Resident left by car for Basra en route to India on a short visit on the 23rd.

Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by road en route to Baghdad on the 10th, and returned on the 15th by the same route.

Mr. C.A.F. Dundas of the British Council arrived on the 7th, and left for Basra and Egypt on the 8th.

Revd. A.N. Adeney of Basra arrived on the 11th, and returned to Basra on the 14th.

Lieut-Col. H.R.P. Dickson, CIE, Chief Local Representative of the Kuwait Oil Company, returned from leave on the 21st.

128. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) News of the Anglo-Turkish Pact was received with great satisfaction by the people of Kuwait.

(b) 'Ramadhan' started on the 14th. The Council

passed/

427
(430)

-2-

passed a resolution to the effect that during 'Ramadhan' meetings would be held on Fridays. Why this day was chosen is not clear.

(c) A party of eleven persons, including Sayid Jamaluddin el Husain arrived here on the 5th en route to Saudi Arabia. During their stay in Kuwait they were the guests of An Nafici, the Saudi-Arabia agent. The passage of the party through Kuwait was kept very quiet.

Had they visas?

(d) The daily news summaries in Arabic which are received regularly from the Embassy, Baghdad, are much appreciated by recipients of copies.

(e) During the month interruptions in telegraphic communications were even worse than usual.

(f) Orders were issued to the leading merchants in Kuwait that sugar should not be sold for more than Rs. 15/- per bag. Export of foodstuffs is being controlled, but there is considerable relaxation in favour of Saudis.

(g) Kuwait Oil Company.

Reference paragraph 95(c) of Summary No.12 (1939)

The new office building was occupied at the end of the month. Kuwait Oil Company have received shipments of building materials, and it is expected that the staff quarters at Magwa will now be completed.

129. SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference paragraph 122(b) of the Summary for September, 1939.

It is reported that the Iraqi Agricultural Mission are irrigating a large area near "El Kharj" and have imported 800 bags of grain for sowing. There seems to be little enthusiasm for this undertaking amongst the people for it is thought that any profit will accrue to Ibn Saud, besides which agriculture has been tried at "El Kharj" before, and has failed.

130. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

s.s./

s.s. "Arabia (Italian) arrived on the 7th and landed 8,000 bags of cement and one case merchandise.

s.s. "Chile Maru" of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 16th and discharged 9,500 bags of cement, 165 cases merchandise and 359 bales of piecegoods.

s.s. "Steel Scientist", an U.S.A steamer, arrived on the 23rd and landed 86 packages of merchandise and 3 cases motor-car spares.

151. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 102°

Minimum temperature: 63°

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

5th November, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION:-

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding 203 (GR) Squadron, R.A.F. Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain (2 copies).
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.
17. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (Through Bahrain).

Confidential.

Nos. 17 and 18 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the month of September, 1939.

118. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

119. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

4 armoured cars and 2 lorries of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah on the 19th with a wireless set and two operators. The cars and lorries returned to Shaibah on the 21st after installing the W/T set at the Agency.

An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived on the 22nd, and, after inspecting the wireless set at the Agency, returned to Shaibah the same day.

An R.A.F aircraft arrived on the 29th and left immediately to Basra.

120. MOVEMENTS.

Major A.C. Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, returned via Basra from summer recess in India on the 1st. He left for Basra on the 17th en route to Bahrain and returned to Kuwait on the 21st.

121. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait sent a message to His Majesty's Government through the Hon'ble the Political Resident expressing his loyalty, and his desire to place his services at the disposal of His Majesty's Government at any time they might be required.

(b) During the period under report measures were taken by the Kuwait authorities to restrict exports of essential foodstuffs, to prevent hoarding and to discourage profiteering. In spite of this the prices of certain commodities rose. A leading merchant named Muhammad al Zahim was fined Rs. 500/-. This action has had a salutory

effect/

-2-

effect, and prices have remained steady though higher than they were before the war.

(c) On the 10th a bedouin was found guilty of having murdered a Kuwaiti bedouin and his wife who were on their way to Subaihiya. He was sentenced to death.

(d) One Dr. Omar Salami, a Lebanese, has been brought to Kuwait by the Kuwait authorities in connection with the establishment of a State Hospital.

(e) The diving season closed during the last week of September. The catch of pearls this year was good, but the pearl market is moribund.

Extract for file on the protection of pearl fisheries in the Gulf (against the Japanese) here

(f) Most of the Palestinian teachers returned to Kuwait during the period under review after the summer vacation. Some of the old teachers were dismissed at the close of last term and others have been recruited in their places. Two more school mistresses have been recruited for the Girls' school.

122. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Ibn Saud moved into camp at Rumainiya during the period under report, and it is reported that he intends shortly to hold a large tribal gathering there.

(b) The Iraqi Irrigation experts mission to Saudi Arabia arrived in Kuwait on the 28th - cf. paragraph 103(2) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary for 1939.

123. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.S. Getsuya Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 5th and discharged 633 packages of general goods and 50 casks of white cement.

S.S. Bengkhalis of the Silver Java and Pacific Line arrived on the 29th and landed the following cargo:-

850 bags sugar.
190 " ~~sugars~~ coffee.
75 " pepper
5 " cardamom.

124/

-3-

124. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 112

Minimum temperature: 70

6th October, 1939.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, New Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203(GR) Squadron, R.A.F. Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.
17. Middle East Intelligence Centre, Cairo (Through Political Agent, Bahrain).

Confidential.



Nos. 15 and 16 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the month of August, 1939.



112. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

113. AVIATION.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 27th, and took Mr. L.D. Scott, General Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company to Abadan. The plane brought Mr. Scott back the same day and returned in the afternoon to Abadan.

114. MOVEMENTS.

Reference paragraph 101(a) of Kuwait Summary No. 13 of 39.

Shaikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, CIE., cousin to the Ruler of Kuwait, returned from the Lebanon on the 14th. He was given a most enthusiastic welcome on arrival.

115. LOCAL INTERESTS.

An Iraqi clerk in the Kuwait Post office named MIR who was proceeding to Iraq on leave was caught at Zubair in the act of smuggling into Iraq contraband goods, such as arms and ammunition cochaine and Japanese silk. He has been taken in custody to Basra.

116. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Yamabuki Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 11th and discharged the following cargo:

314 bales cotton piecegoods
150 cases merchandise
30 cases safety matches
100 chests black tea.

S.S. "Montgomery City" arrived on the 17th and left the next day after discharging 31 packages general cargo and 43 packages for the Oil Company.

S.S. "Hoegh Silvercloud" of the Java Silver Pacific Line arrived on the 29th and landed 400 bags of sugar, 90 bags of

coffee/

Confidential.



Nos. 15 and 16 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the month of August 1939.



112. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

113. AVIATION.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 27th, and took Mr. I.D. Scott, General Manager of the Kuwait Oil Company to Abadan. The plane brought Mr. Scott back the same day and returned in the afternoon to Abadan.

114. MOVEMENTS.

Reference paragraph 101(a) of Kuwait Summary No. 15 of 39. Shaikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, CIE., cousin to the Ruler of Kuwait, returned from the Lebanon on the 14th. He was given a most enthusiastic welcome on arrival.

115. LOCAL INTERESTS.

An Iraqi clerk in the Kuwait Post office named MIR who was proceeding to Iraq on leave was caught at Zubair in the act of smuggling into Iraq contraband goods, such as arms and ammunition cochaine and Japanese silk. He has been taken in custody to Basra.

116. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Yamabuki Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 11th and discharged the following cargo:

314 bales cotton piecegoods
150 cases merchandise
30 cases safety matches
100 chests black tea.

S.S. "Montgomery City" arrived on the 17th and left the next day after discharging 31 packages general cargo and 43 packages for the Oil Company.

S.S. "Hoegh Silvercloud" of the Java Silver Pacific Line arrived on the 29th and landed 400 bags of sugar, 90 bags of coffee/

-2-

coffee and 55 bags of black pepper.

S.S. "Mantai Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 30th and discharged 206 packages general cargo.

117. METEOROLOGICAL.

| Maximum temperature: | 113 |
| --- | --- |
| Minimum temperature: | 81 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

6th September, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203(GR) Squadron, RAF, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

-2-

coffee and 65 bags of black pepper.

S.S. "Manshu Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 30th and discharged 206 packages general cargo.

117. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 113

Minimum temperature: 81

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

6th September, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203(GR) Squadron, RAF, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

30/45.



4632.

Confidential.

No. 14 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 16th to
31st July 1939.

### 106. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

### 107. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. (a) An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Habbaniya bringing Captain Ross and QMS Booth of the Iraq Levies on the 19th. Captain Ross inspected the Kuwait city wall and flew back to Iraq the same day with QMS Booth.

(b) Reference paragraph 20 (a) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.4 of 1939.

On the 25th, a Royal Air Force aircraft arrived from Habbaniya and evacuated the two Royal Air Force Wireless Operators with the "Pack" Wireless Set.*

*A.O.C. is prepared to replace it should an emergency arise. (P.Z. 4980/39)

### 108. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 16th, Lieut-Colonel H.R.P.Dickson, C.I.E., Chief Local Representative, the Kuwait Oil Company Limited, Kuwait, left Kuwait for England on leave. He perpetrated a first class gaffe by sending the following message to the oil camp guard (12 bedouins) "I am leaving for the United Kingdom and I expect every man to do his duty."

(b) Major A.C.Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Karachi via Basra by fast mail steamer on the 29th for summer recess.



### 109. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Reference paragraph 102 (1) of Kuwait

Confidential.

No. 14 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st July 1939.

106. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

107. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force. (a) An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Habbaniya bringing Captain Ross and QMS Booth of the Iraq Levies on the 19th. Captain Ross inspected the Kuwait city wall and flew back to Iraq the same day with QMS Booth.

(b) Reference paragraph 20 (a) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.4 of 1939. On the 25th, a Royal Air Force aircraft arrived from Habbaniya and evacuated the two Royal Air Force Wireless Operators with the "Pack" Wireless Set.*

*A.O.C. is prepared to replace it should an emergency arise. (P.Z.4980/39)

108. MOVEMENTS.

(a) On the 16th, Lieut-Colonel H.R.P.Dickson, C.I.E., Chief Local Representative, the Kuwait Oil Company Limited, Kuwait, left Kuwait for England on leave. He perpetrated a first class Gaffe by sending the following message to the oil camp guard (12 bedouins) "I am leaving for the United Kingdom and I expect every man to do his duty."

(b) Major A.C.Galloway, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Karachi via Basra by fast mail steamer on the 29th for summer recess.



109. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Reference paragraph 102 (1) of Kuwait

435
438

Intelligence Summary No.13 of 1939.

As the negotiations regarding the exportation of sand and shingle from Kuwait by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company have not been successful, the latter have stopped taking sand from Kuwait.

110. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S."Silverbeech" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrived on the 29th and landed the following cargo:-

3008 bags of sugar.
35 " " black pepper.
1 box oil well machinery.

111. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 117°

Minimum temperature: 81°

Political Agent, Kuwait.
On recess at Karachi.

Dated: 10th August 1939.

(Usual distribution)

Intelligence Summary No.13 of 1939.

As the negotiations regarding the exportation of sand and shingle from Kuwait by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company have not been successful, the latter have stopped taking sand from Kuwait.

110. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S."Silverbeech" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrived on the 29th and landed the following cargo:-

3008 bags of sugar.
35 " black pepper.
1 box oil well machinery.

111. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 117

Minimum temperature: 81

Political Agent, Kuwait.
On recess at Karachi.

Dated: 10th August 1939.

(Usual distribution)

Confidential.  No. 13 of 1939.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 1st to
15th July, 1939.

4338.

99. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "Fowey" arrived here on the 4th and left on the 8th.

100. AVIATION.

(1) Royal Air Force. An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah on the 10th bringing the Section Officer, Air Ministry Works Directorate, Margil, who after selecting a site for the new Royal Air Force landing ground outside Kuwait city wall, left for Shaibah the same day.

(2) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 11th with Mr. Gee, and left the same day. The plane returned on the 13th and left immediately taking Mr. Gee back to Abadan.

101. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Lieut-Colonel J.J. Rooney, I.M.S., Residency Surgeon, Bushire, arrived on a tour of inspection on the 3rd by the slow gulf mail steamer and returned on the 6th.

(b) Reference paragraph 94(d) of Kuwait Summary for 1939.

His Excellency Ali Jowdat, the Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs and party arrived from Riyadh on the 8th and were guests of His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait. They left for Basra on 9th.

(c) Shaikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, CIE., cousin to the Ruler of Kuwait, left for the Lebanon via Iraq on the 12th for medical treatment.

102. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(1) On the termination of the contract held by Yusuf al Ghanim for the exportation of sand and shingle from Kuwait, the Kuwait State invited tenders for the new contract. Eventually a monopoly was given to a Company composed of some 20 Kuwaiti merchants. Negotiations between Yusuf al Ghanim, the new Company and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd., are in progress.

(2)/

Confidential.

No. 13 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th July, 1939.

99. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "Fowey" arrived here on the 4th and left on the 8th.

100. AVIATION.

(1) Royal Air Force. An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived from Shaibah on the 10th bringing the Section Officer, Air Ministry Works Directorate, Margil, who after selecting a site for the new Royal Air Force landing ground outside Kuwait city wall, left for Shaibah the same day.

(2) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 11th with Mr. Gee, and left the same day. The plane returned on the 13th and left immediately taking Mr. Gee back to Abadan.

101. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Lieut-Colonel J.T. Rooney, I.M.S., Residency Surgeon, Bushire, arrived on a tour of inspection on the 3rd by the slow Gulf mail steamer and returned on the 6th.

(b) Reference paragraph 94(d) of Kuwait Summary for 1939.

His Excellency Ali Jowdat, the Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs and party arrived from Riyadh on the 8th and were guests of His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait. They left for Basra on 9th.

(c) Shaikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, CIE., cousin to the Ruler of Kuwait, left for the Lebanon via Iraq on the 12th for medical treatment.

102. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(1) On the termination of the contract held by Yusuf al Ghanim for the exportation of sand and shingle from Kuwait, the Kuwait State invited tenders for the new contract. Eventually a monopoly was given to a Company composed of some 20 Kuwaiti merchants. Negotiations between Yusuf al Ghanim, the new Company and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd., are in progress.

(2)/

(2) Three men were arrested for having araq in their possession and also about a dozen Persian opium smokers were arrested in their den. All were beaten and fined.

103. SAUDI ARABIA.

(1) During the period under report, about 40 lorries belonging to Saudi Arabian Government arrived at Kuwait to take building materials such as cement, rafters etc. for the Saudi Government to Riyadh.

(2) Referance paragraph 94 (e) of Kuwait Summary for 1939. It is reported that the two Iraqi Irrigation Engineers will be returning to Saudi Arabia shortly taking with them from Iraq some tree plants for Nejd. It is also reported that the Saudi Government propose to purchase 100 water pumps and to instal them in the Al Kharj district, South Nejd.

(3) A rumour persists that an artisian well has been made in the Dahana about 75 miles north-east of Riyadh. The fact seems to be that a pump well of brackish water has been put into commission.

(4) News of an oil well fire in Saudi Arabia provided talk for the town about a week ago.

104. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Kinugawa Maru" of the Mitsui Line arrived on 14th and discharged 7000 bags cement and 307 packages general cargo.

S.S. Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 1st and discharged

4,000 packets cement
100 cases merchandise
42 bales cotton piecegoods.

S.S. "Khuku Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 5th and landed

10,000 packets cement
41 bales cotton piecegoods
64 cases merchandise.

105. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 116 |
| Minimum temperature: | 81 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

18th July, 1939.

-2-

(2) Three men were arrested for having arak in their possession and also about a dozen Persian opium smokers were arrested in their den. All were beaten and fined.

103. SAUDI ARABIA.

(1) During the period under report, about 40 lorries belonging to Saudi Arabian Government arrived at Kuwait to take building materials such as cement, rafters etc. for the Saudi Government to Riyadh.

(2) Reference paragraph 94 (e) of Kuwait Summary for 1939. It is reported that the two Iraqi Irrigation Engineers will be returning to Saudi Arabia shortly taking with them from Iraq some tree plants for Nejd. It is also reported that the Saudi Government propose to purchase 100 water pumps and to instal them in the Al Kharj district, South Nejd.

(3) A rumour persists that an artisian well has been made in the Dahana about 75 miles north-east of Riyadh. The fact seems to be that a pump well of brackish water has been put into commission.

(4) News of an oil well fire in Saudi Arabia provided talk for the town about a week ago.

104. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Kinugawa Maru" of the Mitsui Line arrived on 14th and discharged 7000 bags cement and 507 packages general cargo.

S.S. Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 1st and discharged

4,000 packets cement
100 cases merchandise
42 bales cotton piecegoods.

S.S. "Kouku Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 5th and landed

10,000 packets cement
41 bales cotton piecegoods
64 cases merchandise.

105. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 116

Minimum temperature: 81

Sd. A.C. Galloway.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

18th July, 1939.

Confidential. No. 12 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th June, 1939.



92. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

93. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived here on the 24th, and left on the 26th.

A section of armoured cars arrived from Shaibah on the 23rd, on a normal routine visit, and returned on the 26th.

Imperial Airways Limited.

Land planes of the Imperial Airways Limited arrived on the 17th, 23rd and 30th respectively, and left for Basra immediately.

94. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 87 of Kuwait Summary No. 11 of 1939.

Mr. Allan Villiers left for Iraq by car on the 16th and returned on the 23rd.

(b) Mr. Adrian Vallance of the Iraq Ministry of Education arrived from Bahrain on the 23rd by the Imperial Airways and left for Baghdad by air on the 30th. During his stay in Kuwait he inspected all the schools and submitted a report for the improvement of Education in Kuwait.

(c) The Amir Saud bin Abdul Aziz al Kebir, a first cousin of H.M. Ibn Saud, accompanied by his son Amir Muhammad and Secretary, Bashir as Sa'adawi, a Lebanese subject, arrived from Riyadh on the 23rd and left for the Lebanon via Iraq on the 24th. It is said that the object of his visit is medical treatment.



(d)/

Confidential.

FILE COPY

No. 12 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th June, 1939.



92. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

93. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

An aircraft of the Royal Air Force arrived here on the 24th, and left on the 26th.

A section of armoured cars arrived from Shaibah on the 23rd, on a normal routine visit, and returned on the 26th.

Imperial Airways Limited.

Land planes of the Imperial Airways Limited arrived on the 17th, 23rd and 30th respectively, and left for Basra immediately.

94. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 87 of Kuwait Summary No. 11 of 1939.

Mr. Allan Villiers left for Iraq by car on the 16th and returned on the 23rd.

(b) Mr. Adrian Vallance of the Iraq Ministry of Education arrived from Bahrain on the 23rd by the Imperial Airways and left for Baghdad by air on the 30th. During his stay in Kuwait he inspected all the schools and submitted a report for the improvement of Education in Kuwait.

(c) The Amir Saud bin Abdul Aziz al Kebir, a first cousin of H.M. Ibn Saud, accompanied by his son Amir Muhammad and Secretary, Bashir as Sa'adawi, a Lebanese subject, arrived from Riyadh on the 23rd and left for the Lebanon via Iraq on the 24th. It is said that the object of his visit is medical treatment.



(4)/

(d) His Excellency Ali Jowdat, Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by Sayid Hamid an-Naqib and a party of 7 people, arrived from Basra on the 26th and stayed in the Shaikh's palace. The Minister, Hamid an-Naqib and His Highness the Shaikh were invited to lunch by the Political Agent on the 27th. The Iraq deputation left for Riyadh on the 27th. The party propose to pass through Kuwait on their return journey.

(e) Two Iraqi Irrigation Engineers, who were working in Riyadh, returned to Iraq via Kuwait after completing their work in Saudi Arabia.

95. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 30(a) of Kuwait Summary No. 5 of 1939.

Yusuf Marzook, who has been confined to bed since he received a wound in his foot and who was due for release from the Mission Hospital, was sent to prison on the 29th. He is now interned in the same building as his fellow conspirators.

(b) Income of the Landing Department.

In response to the local popular feeling, His Highness the Shaikh agreed that the income of this Department, amounting to about Rs. 36,000 annually, be set apart for education, and the building of a State Hospital in Kuwait.

(c) Kuwait Oil Company, Limited.

Rapid progress is being made on the new Kuwait Oil Company, Limited's office building, and it is believed that this will be ready for occupation before the end of this year.

The oil bearing strata was reached in Burgan well No. 3 on the 30th.

96./

-2-

(d) His Excellency Ali Jowdat, Iraqi Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by Sayid Hamid an-Naqib and a party of 7 people, arrived from Basra on the 26th and stayed in the Shaikh's palace. The Minister, Hamid an-Naqib and His Highness the Shaikh were invited to lunch by the Political Agent on the 27th. The Iraq deputation left for Riyadh on the 27th. The party proposes to pass through Kuwait on their return journey.

(e) Two Iraqi Irrigation Engineers, who were working in Riyadh, returned to Iraq via Kuwait after completing their work in Saudi Arabia.

95. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Reference paragraph 30(a) of Kuwait Summary No. 5 of 1939.

Yusuf Marzook, who has been confined to bed since he received a wound in his foot and who was due for release from the Mission Hospital, was sent to prison on the 29th. He is now interned in the same building as his fellow conspirators.

(b) Income of the Landing Department.

In response to the local popular feeling, His Highness the Shaikh agreed that the income of this Department, amounting to about Rs. 36,000 annually, be set apart for education, and the building of a State Hospital in Kuwait.

(c) Kuwait Oil Company, Limited.

Rapid progress is being made on the new Kuwait Oil Company, Limited's office building, and it is believed that this will be ready for occupation before the end of this year.

The oil bearing strata was reached in Burgan well No. 3 on the 30th.

96./

-3-

96. FOREIGN BROADCASTS.

During the period under report, Berlin Shortwave station broadcasted a diatribe against the British Government's activities in Kuwait. The local people are well aware that the German broadcasts are to a great extent lies or gross exaggerations.

97. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.V. "Tosari" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrived on the 30th and discharged the following cargo:-

1,004 bags of sugar
146 bags of coffee
100 bags of black pepper
1 case oil well machinery.

98. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 102 |
| Minimum temperature: | 79 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

2nd July, 1939.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

-3-

96. FOREIGN BROADCASTS.

During the period under report, Berlin Shortwave station broadcasted a diatribe against the British Government's activities in Kuwait. The local people are well aware that the German broadcasts are to a great extent lies or gross exaggerations.

97. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.V. "Tosari" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrived on the 30th and discharged the following cargo:

1,004 bags of sugar
146 bags of coffee
100 bags of black pepper
1 case oil well machinery.

98. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 102

Minimum temperature: 79

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

2nd July, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

Confidential.

No. 11 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 1st to
15th June, 1939.

6

**85. ROYAL NAVY.**

Nil.

**86. AVIATION.**

Royal Air Force.

Nil.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 14th with Mr. Gee, and left the same day. The plane returned the following day leaving immediately with Mr. Gee.

**87. MOVEMENTS.**

Official.

Mr. R.S.T. John, ICS, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Bushire, arrived by slow mail from Bushire on the 14th. He left for Basra by road on the forenoon of the 16th.

Non-official.

Fuad Hamza Bey, Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, arrived from Iraq on the 4th, and left for Saudi Arabia by the land route on the 5th. While here he stayed with the Saudi Agent, al Nafisi.

Mr. Allan Villiers, an Australian traveller, arrived by a country craft on the 7th from Aden and Zanzibar via Muscat and Bahrain. He intends remaining for some months in these parts to study boat-building.

**88. HIS MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.**

The birthday of His Majesty the King George VI was celebrated on the 8th in the customary manner. There was a reception at the Agency for the British, Foreign and British Indian residents. In the evening a dinner party was given on the tennis court to some 80 Arab guests including the Shaikh and members of the Subah family.



All/

Confidential.

No. 11 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th June, 1939.

85. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

86. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

Nil.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived from Abadan on the 14th with Mr. Gee, and left the same day. The plane returned the following day leaving immediately with Mr. Gee.

87. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

Mr. R.S.T. John, ICS, His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Bushire, arrived by slow mail from Bushire on the 14th. He left for Basra by road on the forenoon of the 15th.

Non-official.

Fuad Hamza Bey, Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, arrived from Iraq on the 4th, and left for Saudi Arabia by the land route on the 5th. While here he stayed with the Saudi Agent, al Nafisi.

Mr. Allan Villiers, an Australian traveller, arrived by a country craft on the 7th from Aden and Zanzibar via Muscat and Bahrain. He intends remaining for some months in these parts to study boat-building.

88. HIS MAJESTY'S BIRTHDAY.

The birthday of His Majesty the King George VI was celebrated on the 8th in the customary manner. There was a reception at the Agency for the British, Foreign and British Indian residents. In the evening a dinner party was given on the tennis court to some 80 Arab guests including the Shaikh and members of the Subah family.

All the shops were closed except those in the foodstuff bazaar. In the afternoon a war dance was held in the main town square which was attended by the Ruler and the Political Agent.

89. LOCAL INTERESTS.

New Council building. The building for the Council and the Law Courts which had been under construction for the last few months has been completed. The opening ceremony was performed by His Highness the Ruler on the 3rd. The function was attended by the Political Agent and a number of notables.

Drama by the Mubarakiya school. A drama was enacted by the students of the Mubarakiya school on the 7th. The Ruler, the members of his family and the Political Agent attended. There were ~~also~~ over a thousand people present at this historic performance, for it is the first ~~it~~ drama ever to be performed in Kuwait. The drama was repeated on the 15th.

On the 12th, a dramatic performance was given by the girls' school in presence of large number of women.

Diving. The diving season started during the first week of June and most of the Kuwaiti diving boats have sailed for the pearl banks. This year the "Kanchiya" (early) diving was good; some of the boats sold their catch of pearls for from Rs. 500 to Rs. 2,000.

90. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 12th, but, due to rough weather, did not land any cargo.

91. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 111 |
| Minimum temperature: | 76 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

16th June, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

-2-

All the shops were closed except those in the foodstuff bazaar. In the afternoon a war dance was held in the main town square which was attended by the Ruler and the Political Agent.

89. LOCAL INTERESTS.

New Council building. The building for the Council and the Law Courts which had been under construction for the last few months has been completed. The opening ceremony was performed by His Highness the Ruler on the 3rd. The function was attended by the Political Agent and a number of notables.

Drama by the Mubarakiya school. A drama was enacted by the students of the Mubarakiya school on the 7th. The Ruler, the members of his family and the Political Agent attended. There were ~~also~~ over a thousand people present at this historic performance, for it is the first ~~kk~~ drama ever to be performed in Kuwait. The drama was repeated on the 15th.

On the 12th, a dramatic performance was given by the girls' school in presence of large number of women.

Diving. The diving season started during the first week of June and most of the Kuwaiti diving boats have sailed for the pearl banks. This year the "Kanchiya" (early) diving was good; some of the boats sold their catch of pearls for from Rs. 500 to Rs. 2,000.

90. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 12th, but, due to rough weather, did not land any cargo.

91. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 111

Minimum temperature: 76

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

16th June, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

Confidential.

No. 10 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 15th to
31st May, 1939.



78. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "SHOREHAM", with Captain C.M. Graham, RN, Senior Naval Officer Persian Gulf, in command, arrived on the 25th and left on the 29th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

79. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force plane arrived on the 18th with stores for Wireless Telegraphy and left the same day.

Two Royal Air Force aircrafts landed on the 20th and 23rd, returning to Iraq the same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived on the 24th and left the same day.

80. MOVEMENTS.

The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, KCIE, CBE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by some members of his staff, arrived from Bushire by the Slow Gulf mail steamer on the 16th, and returned on the 27th by Slow mail steamer.

Mr. G.S. de Gaury, MC, left for Basra en route for the United Kingdom on the 16th.

Mrs. Graham and Mrs. May arrived from Basra on the 26th, returning on the 29th.

81. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.S. "SOEKABOEMI" of the Silver Java Pacific Line

arrived/

FILE COPY

Confidential. No. 10 of 1939.

15 JUN 1939

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 15th to 31st May, 1939.



78. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "SHOREHAM", with Captain G.M. Graham, RN, Senior Naval Officer Persian Gulf, in command, arrived on the 25th and left on the 29th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

79. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force plane arrived on the 18th with stores for Wireless Telegraphy and left the same day.

Two Royal Air Force aircrafts landed on the 20th and 23rd, returning to Iraq the same day.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived on the 24th and left the same day.

80. MOVEMENTS.

The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, KCIE, CBE, Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by some members of his staff, arrived from Bushire by the Slow Gulf mail steamer on the 16th, and returned on the 27th by Slow mail steamer.

Mr. C.S. de Gaury, MC, left for Basra en route for the United Kingdom on the 16th.

Mrs. Graham and Mrs. May arrived from Basra on the 26th, returning on the 29th.

81. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.S. "SOEKABOEMI" of the Silver Java Pacific Line

arrived/

arrived here on the 22nd and discharged 2,259 bags of sugar and 84 bags of black pepper.

82. SEIZURE BY THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT OF THE SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 64 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 8 of 1939.

The date gardens have not been released by the Iraqi authorities as yet.

83. SAUDI ARABIA.

The Saudi authorities have agreed to a Ford Agency being opened in Riyadh by the Ford Agent in Kuwait.

84. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 105 |
| Minimum temperature: | 77 |

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

3rd June, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

-2-

arrived here on the 22nd and discharged 2,259 bags of sugar and 84 bags of black pepper.

82. <u>SEIZURE BY THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT OF THE SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.</u>

Reference paragraph 61 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 8 of 1939.

The date gardens have not been released by the Iraqi authorities as yet.

83. <u>SAUDI ARABIA.</u>

The Saudi authorities have agreed to a Ford Agency being opened in Riyadh by the Ford Agent in Kuwait.

84. <u>METEOROLOGICAL.</u>

Maximum temperature: 105

Minimum temperature: 77

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

3rd June, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

Confidential.

No. 9 of 1939.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May, 1939.



70. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

71. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

Two Royal Air Force aircrafts on the way to Iraq landed here at noon on the 11th and left shortly afterwards.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived on the 2nd and left almost immediately.

72. MOVEMENTS.

Major A.C. Galloway, Indian Political Service, arrived here on the 13th from Basra by road and took over charge of the Political Agency, Kuwait, from Mr. G. de Gaury, MC., on the 15th May, 1939.

73. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.S. "TAMAGOWA MARU" of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 7th and discharged 6,000 bags cement and 90 packages general goods.

74. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Defence.

The repairs to the wall of Kuwait are now nearly completed.

(b) Landing pier.

Work has been begun on the "Escala", (as the landing pier is called) and on the new quays.



75. SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDEN APPEAL CASE.

Reference paragraph 55 of Summary No. 7 of 1939.

The/

Confidential.

No. 9 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th May, 1939.



70. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

71. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

Two Royal Air Force aircrafts on the way to Iraq landed here at noon on the 11th and left shortly afterwards.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived on the 2nd and left almost immediately.

72. MOVEMENTS.

Major A.C. Galloway, Indian Political Service, arrived here on the 15th from Basra by road and took over charge of the Political Agency, Kuwait, from Mr. C. de Gaury, MC., on the 15th May, 1939.

73. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

M.S. "TAMAGAWA MARU" of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 7th and discharged 6,000 bags cement and 90 packages general goods.

74. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Defence.

The repairs to the wall of Kuwait are now nearly completed.

(b) Landing pier.

Work has been begun on the "Kasala", (as the landing pier is called) and on the new quays.

75. SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDEN APPEAL CASE.

Reference paragraph 55 of Summary No. 7 of 1939.



The/

-2-

The Appeal case, which was adjourned to May 4th, was again postponed until 11th when it was rejected by the Court.

76. SAUDI ARABIA.

The Saudi Agent has stated that His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia reached JARYA on May 12th and left for RIYADH next day.

77. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 103
Minimum temperature: 68.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

17th May, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait,

DISTRIBUTION:

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, RAF, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

-2-

The Appeal case, which was adjourned to May 4th, was again postponed until 11th when it was rejected by the Court.

76. SAUDI ARABIA.

The Saudi Agent has stated that His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia reached JARYA on May 12th and left for RIYADH next day.

77. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature: 103

Minimum temperature: 68.

Sd. A.C. Galloway.

17th May, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, RAF, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

Confidential. (8)                No. 8 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th April, 1939.



59. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "FOWEY" (Commander H.B. Ellison) arrived here on the 18th and left on the 28th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

The Commander invited the Subah family for coffee on board H.M.S. "FOWEY" at 11 A.M on the 26th. The invitation was very much appreciated.

At the request of the Shaikh and the local Director of Education, the Commander was kind enough to allow about 110 Boy Scouts to visit H.M.S. "FOWEY" at 4-30 P.M on the 26th. Judging by the loud singing of the Boy Scouts, as they returned to the town in lorries, long after dark, the visit was regarded by them as a very great success.

(That there was gin in their ginger beer is denied).

During their stay here, the crew of H.M.S. "FOWEY" played two football matches, against the Kuwait team.

60. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

Nil.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived here on the 17th with Mr. Pattinson, Manager of the Company in Iran, Mrs. Pattinson, and Mr. Gass, a Director of the Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd. The plane left the same day.

61. MOVEMENTS.

Captain J.B. Howes, Assistant Political Agent, Bahrain, arrived by the Imperial Airways on the 16th, and left for Basra by car on the 18th en route to Bahrain.



The Countess of Carlisle left for Basra by road on the 28th, en route to Baghdad.

Lord/

Confidential.

No. 8 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 16th to
30th April, 1939.

59. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "FOWEY" (Commander H.B. Ellison) arrived here on the 18th and left on the 28th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

The Commander invited the Subah family for coffee on board H.M.S. "FOWEY" at 11 A.M on the 26th. The invitation was very much appreciated.

At the request of the Shaikh and the local Director of Education, the Commander was kind enough to allow about 110 Boy Scouts to visit H.M.S. "FOWEY" at 4-30 P.M on the 26th. Judging by the loud singing of the Boy Scouts, as they returned to the town in lorries, long after dark, the visit was regarded by them as a very great success.

(That there was gin in their ginger beer is denied.)

During their stay here, the crew of H.M.S. "FOWEY" played two football matches, against the Kuwait team.

60. AVIATION.

Royal Air Force.

Nil.

Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

An aeroplane of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd arrived here on the 17th with Mr. Pattinson, Manager of the Company in Iran, Mrs. Pattinson, and Mr. Gass, a Director of the Kuwait Oil Co. Ltd. The plane left the same day.

61. MOVEMENTS.

Captain J.B. Howes, Assistant Political Agent, Bahrain, arrived by the Imperial Airways on the 16th, and left for Basra by car on the 18th en route to Bahrain.

The Countess of Carlisle left for Basra by road on the 28th, en route to Baghdad.



lord.

Lord Alington left for Basra by car on the 30th, en route to Egypt by air.

Lieutenants Mian Ghulam Jilani and His Highness Kushwakht-ul-Mulk of the 19th Hyderabad Regiment, on leave, arrived here by the slow mail steamer from India on the 25th and left for Basra by car the next day en route to Iran.

His Highness the Ruler accommodated them in the palace.

62. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "HOEGH SILVERSTAR" of the Silver Java/ Pacific Line arrived here on the 25th and landed 50 tons sugar and 4 tons black pepper.

S.S. "MANTAI MARU" of the Yamashita Line arrived here on the 26th and discharged

4000 bags cement
2 bundles empty bags
21 bundles piecegoods
60 cases merchandise.

S.S. "HOHENFELS" of the Hansa Line arrived on the 30th and landed 16 tons trucks, auto-engine and parts for the Kuwait Oil Company Limited.

63. LOCAL INTERESTS.

The cost of sugar rose on the 26th to Rs. 15/- per 2 cwt. (It used to be about Rs.10 and has been as low as Rs. 8). This is presumably due to fear of war in Europe.

64. SEIZURE BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT OF SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE Gardens in Iraq, guaranteed to him by His Majesty's Government in 1914.

Reference paragraph 54 of Kuwait Summary No. 7 of 1939.

The Iraqi Government still remains in occupation of the two gardens seized by them in March.

An unconfirmed rumour from Basra says that the Shaikh of Kuwait's remaining gardens are to be taken over soon by the Mutassarif, who is preparing a popular clamour in his favour

on/

-2-

Lord Allington left for Basra by car on the 30th, en route to Egypt by air.

Lieutenants Mian Ghulam Jilani and His Highness Kuswaht-ul-Mulk of the 19th Hyderabad Regiment, on leave, arrived here by the slow mail steamer from India on the 25th and left for Basra by car the next day en route to Iran.

His Highness the Ruler accommodated them in the palace.

62. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "HOEGH SILVERSTAR" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrived here on the 25th and landed 50 tons sugar and 4 tons black pepper.

S.S. "MANTAI MARU" of the Yamashita Line arrived here on the 26th and discharged

4000 bags cement
2 bundles empty bags
21 bundles piecegoods
60 cases merchandise.

S.S. "HOHENFELS" of the Hansa Line arrived on the 30th and landed 16 tons trucks, auto-engine and parts for the Kuwait Oil Company Limited.

63. LOCAL INTERESTS.

The cost of sugar rose on the 26th to Rs. 15/- per 2 cwt. (It used to be about Rs.10 and has been as low as Rs. 8). This is presumably due to fear of war in Europe.

64. SEIZURE BY IRAQI GOVERNMENT OF SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE Gardens in Iraq, guaranteed to him by His Majesty's Government in 1914.

Reference paragraph 54 of Kuwait Summary No. 7 of 1939.

The Iraqi Government still remains in occupation of the two gardens seized by them in March.

An unconfirmed rumour from Basra says that the Shaikh of Kuwait's remaining gardens are to be taken over soon by the Mutasarrif, who is preparing a popular clamour in his favour

on/

on this issue, and that this is connected with an intrigue for a new Iraqi Cabinet, which he hopes will include him.

65. BUOYS AND BEACONS.

12 temporary buoys marking a 300 foot channel from the main harbour to Shuwaikh ancherage were laid by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

66. ANTIQUITIES - RECORD NOTE ETC.

Reference paragraphs 124 and (149 -b) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary for 1938.

The Greek dedication stone, which has for some time been kept in the Agency has been returned to Shaikh Salim bin Hamood as Subah, whose workmen unearthed it, together with the British Museum papers about it.

(The final decision of the experts was that it was a dedication by "SOTELES" the Athenian and his soldiers" to the appropriate Gods, for saving from shipwreck, somewhere about the 3rd century B.C).

67. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) His Majesty the King Ibn Saud, accompanied by 600 men arrived at JARYA from al HIMAR, his camping place on the RIYADH road on the 26th. He lunched at JARYA and left for his oil fields the same day.

(b) Lord Alington, by invitation, visited the King at al HIMAR on the 25th and accompanied him to JARYA.

The Saudi Agent from Kuwait went with him in attendance. The Countess of Carlisle accompanied by her maid took advantage of this escort to go to the King's Camp and return. His Royal Highness the Emir Saud, who had recently been entertained by Lady Carlisle when in England, also received the party. The party arrived in Kuwait again on the 26th. His Majesty is reported to be looking well, if somewhat "tired". His Majesty is said to have been much pleased on hearing of the

-3-

on this issue, and that this is connected with an intrigue for a new Iraqi Cabinet, which he hopes will include him.

65. BUOYS AND BEACONS.

12 temporary buoys marking a 300 foot channel from the main harbour to Shuwaikh anchorage were laid by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

66. ANTIQUITIES - RECORD NOTE ETC.

Reference paragraphs 124 and (149 -b) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary for 1938.

The Greek dedication stone, which has for some time been kept in the Agency has been returned to Shaikh Salim bin Hamood as Subah, whose workmen unearthed it, together with the British Museum papers about it.

(The final decision of the experts was that it was a dedication by "SOTELES" the Athenian and his soldiers" to the appropriate Gods, for saving from shipwreck, somewhere about the 3rd century B.C).

67. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) His Majesty the King Ibn Saud, accompanied by 600 men arrived at JARYA from al HIMAH, his camping place on the RIYADH road on the 26th. He lunched at JARYA and left for his oil fields the same day.

(b) Lord Allington, by invitation, visited the King at al HIMAH on the 25th and accompanied him to JARYA.

The Saudi Agent from Kuwait went with him in attendance. The Countess of Carlisle accompanied by her maid took advantage of this escort to go to the King's Camp and return. His Royal Highness the Emir Saud, who had recently been entertained by Lady Carlisle when in England, also received the party. The party arrived in Kuwait again on the 26th. His Majesty is reported to be looking well, if somewhat "tired". His Majesty is said to have been much pleased on hearing of the

-4-

the introduction of conscription in England, of which he was already aware twelve hours before the news had reached Kuwait on the London Broadcast.

The usual offerings were made to him, and dresses of honour were given in exchange by the King.

68. GERMANY.

An Arabic Broadcast from Berlin was started on the 25th. Reception is very clear. The announcer is believed by Kuwaitis to be YUNIS BAHRI, an Iraqi journalist who was formerly at the Baghdad Qasr-az-Zihoor station. He speaks clearly and fluently. People of Kuwait are listening attentively to this station in order to hear the German point of view, but they are fully aware that it is for propaganda purposes.

Unfortunately in spite of this some "Youths" seem to be affected by propaganda on the subject of Palestine.

69. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature: | 94 |
| Minimum Temperature: | 55 |

Political Agency, Kuwait,
3rd May, 1939.

[signature]
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-4-

the introduction of conscription in England, of which he was already aware twelve hours before the news had reached Kuwait on the London Broadcast.

The usual offerings were made to him, and dresses of honour were given in exchange by the King.

68. GERMANY.

An Arabic Broadcast from Berlin was started on the 25th. Reception is very clear. The announcer is believed by Kuwaitis to be YUNIS BAHRI, an Iraqi journalist who was formerly at the Baghdad Qasr-az-Zihoor station. He speaks clearly and fluently. People of Kuwait are listening attentively to this station in order to hear the German point of view, but they are fully aware that it is for propaganda purposes.

Unfortunately in spite of this some "Youths" seem to be affected by propaganda on the subject of Palestine.

69. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum Temperature: 94
Minimum Temperature: 65

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
3rd May, 1939.

Confidential.

No. 7 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 1st to
15th April, 1939.



49. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

50. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

A R.A.F. aircraft arrived on the 15th and left immediately with Quarter Master Sergeant BOOTH of the Iraq Levies and Major C. Warren, a member of the British Military Mission in Iraq, who had arrived on the 10th.

(b) Imperial Airways.

An Imperial Airways plane called on the evening of 2nd owing to a storm over Basra.

51. MOVEMENTS.

Mr. G. de Gaury, MC., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by car on the 7th and returned on the 9th.

Lord Alington arrived here on the 9th from Basra.

The Countess of Carlisle arrived from Basra by car on the 10th.

52. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Japanese.

S.S. "YAMOBAKI MARU" arrived on the 9th and discharged the following cargo:

2,000 bags cement.
60 packages empty bags.
323 packages general.

53. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Oil Company. Following is synopsis of staff and labour employed by the Kuwait Oil Company:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| British | 11 | |
| American | 2 | |
| British Indian | 38 | |
| Portuguese Indian. | 5 | |
| Kuwaitis | 157. | |
| British Protected Person. | 1 | (Kalat State) |

Confidential.



No. 7 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th April, 1939.

49. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

50. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

A R.A.F. aircraft arrived on the 15th and left immediately with Quarter Master Sergeant BOOTH of the Iraq Levies and Major C. Warren, a member of the British Military Mission in Iraq, who had arrived on the 10th.

(b) Imperial Airways.

An Imperial Airways plane called on the evening of 2nd owing to a storm over Basra.

51. MOVEMENTS.

Mr. G. de Gaury, MC., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by car on the 7th and returned on the 9th.

Lord Allington arrived here on the 9th from Basra.

The Countess of Carlisle arrived from Basra by car on the 10th.

52. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Japanese.

S.S. "YAMOKAKI MARU" arrived on the 9th and discharged the following cargo:

2,000 bags cement.
60 packages empty bags.
323 packages general.

53. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Oil Company. Following is synopsis of staff and labour employed by the Kuwait Oil Company:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| British | 11 | |
| American | 2 | |
| British Indian | 38 | |
| Portuguese Indian. | 5 | |
| Kuwaitis | 157. | |
| British Protected Person. | 1 | (Kalat State) |

Enquiry into the origin of these people reveals the fact that nineteen of them had "Persian" great grand-fathers and that this number stands just about in the same ratio as does the ratio of persons of Persian origin in the populations of Kuwait and perhaps below that of Southern Iraq and the head of the Gulf generally.

In Iraq the populations of Nejif, Kerbala and Kadhimian and Basra are popularly, and probably rightly, supposed to have a large percentage, over 50%, of persons of Persian origin.

The population of al Qatif, and some of the settlements nearby, in Saudi Arabia are said to be largely Persian in origin.

On the other hand there are large numbers of "Arabs" in Iran, both on the Gulf Coast and in Arabistan and inland, there are whole "Arab" tribal confiderations between Shiraz and Bandar Abbas.

In point of fact, Kuwait is well known in the Middle East as an "Arab (Nejdi)" town with a strikingly "pure Arab" and "unspoilt" appearance and population. In this, it is almost, if not quite, unique, as there are no bigger towns than Kuwait in Arabia, and the Hejaz towns population is much more mixed than that of Kuwait. The only town in Iraq which in any way resembles Kuwait is Zobeir, opposite the Kuwait frontier, where many of the population are Nejdi Arabs by origin.

KUWAIT POLICE. It has been reiterated in the Iraqi Press that the Shaikh of Kuwait employs Persian Police, with the alleged intention of cowing the Arabs of Kuwait. Enquiry reveals that not a single man or even remote Persian origin is employed in the Police, or, for that matter, among the Body Guards and "Fidawiya".

Until the late Mutassarif of Basra, TAHSIN ALI, mentioned it in July 1938 to the Political Agent, a "Persian problem" in Kuwait had not been heard of by the Agency. In any case emigration and settlement of Iranians in Kuwait has long been forbidden by the local authorities, and the present Kuwaitis of distant Persian origin, if they were to leave Kuwait would disturb the life of the "Arab" community to which they now belong, and of which they are a part.

-2-

Enquiry into the origin of these people reveals the fact that nineteen of them had "Persian" great grand-fathers and that this number stands just about in the same ratio as does the ratio of persons of Persian origin in the populations of Kuwait and perhaps below that of Southern Iraq and the head of the Gulf generally.

In Iraq the populations of Nejif, Kerbala and Kadhimain and Basra are popularly, and probably rightly, supposed to have a large percentage, over 50%, of persons of Persian origin.

The population of al Qatif, and some of the settlements nearby, in Saudi Arabia are said to be largely Persian in origin.

On the other hand there are large numbers of "Arabs" in Iran, both on the Gulf Coast and in Arabistan and inland, there are whole "Arab" tribal confiderations between Shiraz and Bandar Abbas.

In point of fact, Kuwait is well known in the Middle East as an "Arab (Nejdi)" town with a strikingly "pure Arab and "unspoilt" appearance and population. In this, it is almost, if not quite, unique, as there are no bigger towns than Kuwait in Arabia, and the Hejaz towns population is much more mixed than that of Kuwait. The only town in Iraq which in any way resembles Kuwait is Zobeir, opposite the Kuwait frontier, where many of the population are Nejdi Arabs by origin.

KUWAIT POLICE. It has been reiterated in the Iraqi Press that the Shaikh of Kuwait employs Persian Police, with the alleged intention of cowing the Arabs of Kuwait. Enquiry reveals that not a single man or even remote Persian origin is employed in the Police, or, for that matter, among the Body Guards and "Fidawiya".

Until the late Mutassarif of Basra, TAHSIN ALI, mentioned it in July 1938 to the Political Agent, a "Persian problem" in Kuwait had not been heard of by the Agency. In any case emigration and settlement of Iranians in Kuwait has long been forbidden by the local authorities, and the present Kuwaitis of distant Persian origin, if they were to leave Kuwait would disturb the life of the "Arab" community to which they now belong, and of which they are a part.

54. RESTORATION OF SHAIKH'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 41 of Summary No. 6 of 1939.

The Shaikh of Kuwait's estates in Iraq have not yet been restored to him.

55. SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDEN APPEAL CASE.

Reference paragraph 17 of Kuwait Summary No. 3 of 1939.

The hearing of the appeal case which was fixed for the 11th has been adjourned to May 4th.

56. IRAQ.

(a) Iraq Army. An unimpeachable source states that it is the intention of the Iraq Military authorities to station a BRIGADE (not one battalion as previously reported) at Zobeir.

This Brigade, it is understood, is to be the Brigade at present stationed at Basra, i.e. for the defence of Basra.

Reasons given out for the move are

(a) health of the troops

(b) expense of continuing to rent land at Basra,

but neither of these seems a very good reason, because the Iraqi Government is quite capable of acquiring the land it wants (as the Shaikh of Kuwait well knows) and the soldiers of the Iraq Army are fully inured to the malarial valleys of Kurdistan and the insect-invested marshes, towns and canals of lower Iraq, their homes.

Fear of the might of Iran is said to be prevalent in the Higher Iraqi Military circles, and if there is not some other reason for this move, it can only be supposed that their fear of Iran has reached such a point that it is intended to abandon the defence of Basra if attacked, (since Zobeir is for military purposes practically cut off from Basra every time it rains at all hard or the floods rise, and is fifteen miles from it.).

The British Military Mission in Iraq may of course have full information as to the real reasons for this move.

(b) On the 9th and 10th of April reports were current in official circles in Basra that delegations were arriving from

-3-

54. RESTORATION OF SHAIKH'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 41 of Summary No. 6 of 1939.

The Shaikh of Kuwait's estates in Iraq have not yet been restored to him.

55. SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDEN APPEAL CASE.

Reference paragraph 17 of Kuwait Summary No. 3 of 1939.

The hearing of the appeal case which was fixed for the 11th has been adjourned to May 4th.

56. IRAQ.

(a) Iraq Army. An unimpeachable source states that it is the intention of the Iraq Military authorities to station a BRIGADE (not one battalion as previously reported) at Zobeir.

This Brigade, it is understood, is to be the Brigade at present stationed at Basra, i.e. for the defence of Basra.

Reasons given out for the move are

(a) health of the troops

(b) expense of continuing to rent land at Basra,

but neither of these seems a very good reason, because the Iraqi Government is quite capable of acquiring the land it wants (as the Shaikh of Kuwait well knows) and the soldiers of the Iraq Army are fully inured to the malarial valleys of Kurdistan and the insect-invested marshes, towns and canals of lower Iraq, their homes.

Fear of the might of Iran is said to be prevalent in the Higher Iraqi Military circles, and if there is not some other reason for this move, it can only be supposed that their fear of Iran has reached such a point that it is intended to abandon the defence of Basra if attacked, (since Zobeir is for military purposes practically cut off from Basra every time it rains at all hard or the floods rise, and is fifteen miles from it.).

The British Military Mission in Iraq may of course have full information as to the real reasons for this move.

(b) On the 9th and 10th of April reports were current in official circles in Basra that delegations were arriving from

from Kuwait and Nejd to join in the Basra mourning for the late King Ghazi. It was said that the Mutassarif had waived all visa regulations for coming or going and that free transport was to be provided by Iraq. Later the newspaper "AL KARKH" of Baghdad of the 13th April reported that the Kuwait delegation, some 500 persons, had been turned back by the Kuwait Police at JAHRA by order of the Kuwait authorities.

In fact no delegation, and no individuals, left Kuwait for Basra for this purpose. Not even a "small" delegation came from Kuwait, or as far as is known from Nejd, or intended to do so.

(c) The Basra Port authorities have erected posts on Kuwait territory, along the shore of the BAHAITH BAY and the Khor SUBIYA, without permission from or intimation to the Kuwait authorities. This is understood to have been done under the direction of Mr.Coster (who was involved in the cutting of date trees on the Shaikh's estates without permission last summer) who, it is said in Basra, has been engaged on a survey "at the request of the Foreign Office".

(d) The Mutassarif of Basra had denounced to the Shaikh's son the "activity" of the Political Agent in Kuwait, and according to the Shaikh's son he added that all their difficulties came from adhering to the British and their policy, and that more difficulties would, therefore, come to them in the future.

(e) According to rumours in Basra the Mutassarif of Basra has offered to facilitate the making of a settlement at UMM QASUR on the Khor Zobeir, by the population of Kuwait.

(f) The press campaign from Iraq against Kuwait, which continues, reached far afield.

The Arabic newspaper "AL BAYAN" edited in New York, published on the 28th February, a letter from a correspondent in Beirut. The letter purported to describe the situation in Kuwait, and said that the Amir refused to ratify the Constitution, under pretence that it was detrimental to his family. The letter also says that the "nationalists" are hunted out by the British authorities that all the civil servants are foreigners, and that Arabic is scarcely spoken now.

57. GERMANY.

-4-

from Kuwait and Nejd to join in the Basra mourning for the late King Ghazi. It was said that the Mutassarif had waived all visa regulations for coming or going and that free transport was to be provided by Iraq. Later the newspaper "AL KARKH" of Baghdad of the 13th April reported that the Kuwait delegation, some 500 persons, had been turned back by the Kuwait Police at JAHRA by order of the Kuwait authorities.

In fact no delegation, and no individuals, left Kuwait for Basra for this purpose. Not even a "small" delegation came from Kuwait, or as far as is known from Nejd, or intended to do so.

(c) The Basra Port authorities have erected posts on Kuwait territory, along the shore of the BAHAITH BAY and the Khor SUBIYA, without permission from or intimation to the Kuwait authorities. This is understood to have been done under the direction of Mr.Coster (who was involved in the cutting of date trees on the Shaikh's estates without permission last summer) who, it is said in Basra, has been engaged on a survey "at the request of the Foreign Office".

(d) The Mutassarif of Basra had denounced to the Shaikh's son the "activity" of the Political Agent in Kuwait, and according to the Shaikh's son he added that all their difficulties came from adhering to the British and their policy, and that more difficulties would, therefore, come to them in the future.

(e) According to rumours in Basra the Mutassarif of Basra has offered to facilitate the making of a settlement at UMM QASUR on the Khor Zobeir, by the population of Kuwait.

(f) The press campaign from Iraq against Kuwait, which continues, reached far afield.

The Arabic newspaper "AL BAYAN" edited in New York, published on the 28th February, a letter from a correspondent in Beirut. The letter purported to describe the situation in Kuwait, and said that the Amir refused to ratify the constitution, under pretence that it was detrimental to his family. The letter also says that the "nationalists" are hunted out by the British authorities that all the civil servants are foreigners, and that Arabic is scarcely spoken now.

57. GERMANY.

-5-

One KURT LORI, a German subject, electrical and wireless engineer, with wife and two children, arrived here on the 11th from FAO in a top heavy looking 3 ton sailing canoe with auxiliary engine without visas for anywhere, but having been permitted to clear for Kuwait and Bahrain by the Basra Port Officer and for Kuwait via Abadan by the Collector of Excise (Mr. Ringrow) on March 20th. In the course of an interview, he requested the Political Agent to obtain for him a visa for Bahrain "in order to obtain work there". The visa was subsequently refused by the Bahrain authorities.

He cleared on the 16th for al QATIF, Saudi Arabia, but in the direction of FAO whither he had been advised to return. He writes and types English and speaks Arabic. There is reason to believe he may now try to go down the Iranian coast via Bushire. The Iraqi Customs authorities (Mr. Ringrow) said they heard that the man had been arrested, in Kuwait, and asked the British Consul, Basra, to intervene on his behalf.

58. METEOROLOGICAL.

This year seems likely to be as unusual as last year, but as a comparatively cold one instead of a comparatively extremely hot one. Fires were still desirable at night up to the 3rd.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature: | 84 |
| Minimum temperature: | 52 |
| Total rainfall during winter: | 4.91 inches. |

18th April, 1939.

[signature]

Political Agent, Kuwait.

-5-

One KURT LORI, a German subject, electrical and wireless engineer, with wife and two children, arrived here on the 11th from FAO in a top heavy looking 3 ton sailing canoe with auxiliary engine without visas for anywhere, but having been permitted to clear for Kuwait and Bahrain by the Basra Port Officer and for Kuwait via Abadan by the Collector of Excise (Mr. Ringrow) on March 20th. In the course of an interview, he requested the Political Agent to obtain for him a visa for Bahrain "in order to obtain work there". The visa was subsequently refused by the Bahrain authorities.

He cleared on the 16th for al QATIF, Saudi Arabia, but in the direction of FAO whither he had been advised to return. He writes and types English and speaks Arabic. There is reason to believe he may now try to go down the Iranian coast via Bushire. The Iraqi Customs authorities (Mr. Ringrow) said they heard that the man had been arrested, in Kuwait, and asked the British Consul, Basra, to intervene on his behalf.

58. METEOROLOGICAL.

This year seems likely to be as unusual as last year, but as a comparatively cold one instead of a comparatively extremely hot one. Fires were still desirable at night up to the 3rd.

Maximum temperature: 84
Minimum temperature: 52
Total rainfall during winter: 4.91 inches.

18th April, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

Confidential.

(9)

No. 6 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March, 1939.







35. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

36. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Air Vice Marshall H.H.S. Tyssen, MC, Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, arrived by flying boat on the 22nd and proceeded to Iraq the same day.

Royal Air Force aircraft landed on the 27th and 30th, returning to Iraq the same day.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

Nil.

37. MOVEMENTS.

Mr. G. S. de Gaury, MC, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Habbaniya by air and train on the 22nd, and returned from Baghdad by air on the 25th.

Mr. Inam-ul-Majid, ICS., Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Alexandria, arrived here by road from Basra on the 23rd and returned the same day.

Mr. Louis Kreuger, Swedish subject, representing Swedish Match Company arrived on the 25th and returned to Basra the same day.

Professor Rankine, and Geophysist Davis, landed here from the slow mail steamer on the 21st.

38. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Japanese. S.S. "AKAGISAN MARU" of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 19th and landed the following cargo:

269 bundles general goods
90 cases Tea.
30 barrels and 8000 bags cement.

39. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Internal Affairs.

Local intelligent observers believe that the political barometer in Kuwait is now set 'fair'. One of them went so

Confidential.

No. 6 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st March, 1939.



35. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

36. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Air Vice Marshall H.G. Tyssen, MC, Air Officer Commanding British Forces in Iraq, arrived by flying boat on the 22nd and proceeded to Iraq the same day.

Royal Air Force aircraft landed on the 27th and 30th, returning to Iraq the same day.

(b) Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

Nil.

37. MOVEMENTS.

Mr. G.S. de Gaury, MC, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Habbaniya by air and train on the 22nd, and returned from Baghdad by air on the 25th.

Mr. Inam-ul-Majid, ICS., Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Alexandria, arrived here by road from Basra on the 23rd and returned the same day.

Mr. Louis Kreuger, Swedish subject, representing Swedish Match Company arrived on the 25th and returned to Basra the same day.

Professor Rankine, and Geophysist Davis, landed here from the slow mail steamer on the 21st.

38. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Japanese. S.S. "AKAGISAN MARU" of the Mitsui Line arrived on the 19th and landed the following cargo:

269 bundles general goods
90 cases Tea.
30 barrels and 3000 bags cement.

39. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Internal Affairs.

Local intelligent observers believe that the political barometer in Kuwait is now set 'fair'. One of them went so

457
460

-2-

so far as to say that it will remain 'fair' for "about fifteen years"!

It has to be remembered that incidents such as that on March 10th, reported in the last summary, were most unusual in Kuwait, and that the effect has thus been correspondingly great. Those who leant politically towards the agitators have now confessed they did so because they thought that they were the winning side; such is the unsettling effect of persistent and intensive propaganda on simple minds.

The internal troubles in Iraq, straight news from the B.B.C. and other causes, but mostly the firm action forced upon the local authorities by events, have put things right again. The Subah family hold (unpaid, being sufficiently well off without pay) most of the important official posts and are represented in the new Council, which is so far functioning happily, and is of the kind which is usual in Arabia, a Committee of experienced Elders.

As the Administrative report of this Agency may not reach recipients of this report, who, owing to Iraq propaganda against Kuwait, may be interested to know the truth, a very brief summary of some administrative matters is included below:-

<u>Council</u>. There is an Advisory Council of 13 members, nine are notables, four are members of the Ruling clan, in addition there is a President, the Shaikh's Cousin. The Shaikh himself sits with the Council frequently, is the executive power, and has a right of veto, which, so far, he has not used.

<u>Financial</u>. The Revenue of the State is at the disposal of the Council and goes to its Treasury.

<u>Medical</u>. There is a Mission Hospital which maintains 20 beds for men and 20 beds for women. Each section has an operating theatre.

There is a Government of India Free Dispensary.

There is a free dispensary maintained by a rich notable, Ahmad al Ghanim.

A new Kuwait State 'Cottage Hospital' is being started as

-2-

so far as to say that it will remain 'fair' for 'about fifteen years".

It has to be remembered that incidents such as that on March 10th, reported in the last summary, were most unusual in Kuwait, and that the effect has thus been correspondingly great. Those who leant politically towards the agitators have now confessed they did so because they thought that they were the winning side; such is the unsettling effect of persistent and intensive propaganda on simple minds.

The internal troubles in Iraq, straight news from the B.B.C. and other causes, but mostly the firm action forced upon the local authorities by events, have put things right again. The Subah family hold (unpaid, being sufficiently well off without pay) most of the important official posts and are represented in the new Council, which is so far functioning happily, and is of the kind which is usual in Arabia, a Committee of experienced Elders.

As the Administrative report of this Agency may not reach recipients of this report, who, owing to Iraq propaganda against Kuwait, may be interested to know the truth, a very brief summary of some administrative matters is included below -

Council. There is an Advisory Council of 13 members, nine are notables, four are members of the Ruling clan, in addition there is a President, the Shaikh's Cousin. The Shaikh himself sits with the Council frequently, is the executive power, and has a right of veto, which, so far, he has not used.

Financial. The Revenue of the State is at the disposal of the Council and goes to its Treasury.

Medical. There is a Mission Hospital which maintains 20 beds for men and 20 beds for women. Each section has an operating theatre.

There is a Government of India Free Dispensary.

There is a free dispensary maintained by a rich notable, Ahmad al Ghanim.

A new Kuwait State 'Cottage Hospital' is being started as

as soon as possible and plans are under way at the present time.

The Agency sends the Quarantine Medical Officer with free supplies of the simpler safe medicines to the village on Falaicha Island annually.

Pearl masters take steps to prevent scurvy and supply medicines to the pearling fleet.

Charitable. In accordance with an ancient Arab custom, the Ruler gives, out of his private purse, free meals to all who may come for it every Friday. Fortunately there is no unemployment.

A "Director of Orphans" has just been appointed and an Orphanage is being established at once, purely it seems as a sop to "civilized" critics, since orphans in Kuwait have been well looked after by someone, usually the head of the child's clan, or the head of the quarter in which the orphan was born, into whose family they were adopted.

Now, in deference to criticism, the orphans will be treated more impersonally, and possibly less well.

Education. There is free education in the four existing Government Boys' schools and in the one Government Girls' school. The number of trained masters, from Palestine, was recently doubled to make 8 and two Palestinian school-mistresses were brought in for the Girls' school. There are also Kuwaiti masters. The total number of students in these schools is about 400. Every Kuwaiti boy goes to a Koranic school, which is unusually well run, and forms a sort of kinder-garten. For this richer parents pay, others need not.

The Kuwait Oil Company hopes to open a small technical school at its Field for youths who later will be employed by them.

There is a Free Public Library in the main street with plenty of books and many periodicals.

University education is usually sought at Aligarh or elsewhere in India, but four boys are maintained entirely at the

State/

as soon as possible and plans are under way at the present time.

The Agency sends the Quarantine Medical Officer with free supplies of the simpler safe medicines to the village on Failaka Island annually.

Pearl masters take steps to prevent scurvy and supply medicines to the pearling fleet.

Charitable. In accordance with an ancient Arab custom, the Ruler gives, out of his private purse, free meals to all who may come for it every Friday. Fortunately there is no unemployment.

A "Director of Orphans" has just been appointed and an Orphanage is being established at once, purely it seems as a sop to "civilised" critics, since orphans in Kuwait have been well looked after by someone, usually the head of the child's clan, or the head of the quarter in which the orphan was born, into whose family they were adopted.

Now, in deference to criticism, the orphans will be treated more impersonally, and possibly less well.

Education. There is free education in the four existing Government Boys' schools and in the one Government Girls' school. The number of trained masters, from Palestine, was recently doubled to make 8 and two Palestinian school-mistresses were brought in for the Girls' school. There are also Kuwaiti masters. The total number of students in these schools is about 400. Every Kuwaiti boy goes to a Koranic school, which is unusually well run, and forms a sort of kinder-garten. For this richer parents pay, others need not.

The Kuwait Oil Company hopes to open a small technical school at its Field for youths who later will be employed by them.

There is a Free Public Library in the main street with plenty of books and many periodicals.

University education is usually sought at Aligarh or elsewhere in India, but four boys are maintained entirely at the

State/

State expense at Al AZHAR in Cairo.

Military. Quarter Master Sergeant BOOTH of the Iraq Levies arrived by air on the 27th in order to give the Shaikh's forces a three week refresher course in weapon training.

Engineering. Mr. S.G. Murtaza, Assistant Engineer, Independent Persian Gulf Sub-Division, arrived here from Bushire on the 21st in order to advise and superintend the building of a harbour and landing quays and help if required with other State and Municipal works, which at the present time include:

(a) Repairing the Town walls, towers and gate-houses.

(b) Repair of road to the palace from the housing area

(c) Building of a prison "with 1st, 2nd and 3rd class compartments

(that a prison is needed is indicative of how few prisoners there have been here hitherto. The old prison seldom had more than one prisoner in it. Even now there are not many. They are prisoners convicted of sedition; who are allowed to have their own food sent into them if they wish).

(d) Building of the State "Hospital".

Municipal. Almost the first remark of every European visito[r] to Kuwait is about the most unusual cleanliness of the streets (due to an Aldermanic system of responsibility) and of the people o[f] Kuwait. The second comment is usually that the people look particularly happy, and the third remark is to contrast Kuwait with Iraq in favour of the former.

In so far as Municipal facilities are concerned there are th[e] usual abattoirs, fish and meat markets under its control, all much improved within the last three years.

There is of course an Electric Light Supply, a Soda Water Factory and an Ice Factory. All these are private enterprises but are under proper official control.

There is a Chamber of Commerce and an Arbitration Court of merchants, as well as a Pearl merchants' and Divers' Disputes Court

Legal. Appeal can be made from the Law Court to the Ruler, who, with his Advisory Council, acts as the Court of Appeal.

40. FRONTIER POSTS.

(i) On March 26th Shaikh Ali al Khalifa, as the Shaikh's

-4-

State expenses at AL AZHAR in Cairo.

Military. Quarter Master Sergeant BOOTH of the Iraq levies arrived by air on the 27th in order to give the Shaikh's forces a three week refresher course in weapon training.

Engineering. Mr. S.C. Murtaza, Assistant Engineer, Independent Persian Gulf Sub-Division, arrived here from Bushire on the 21st in order to advise and superintend the building of a harbour and landing quays and help if required with other State and Municipal works, which at the present time include:

(a) Repairing the Town walls, towers and gate-houses.

(b) Repair of road to the palace from the housing area

(c) Building of a prison "with 1st, 2nd and 3rd class compartments

(that a prison is needed is indicative of how few prisoners there have been hitherto. The old prison seldom had more than one prisoner in it. Even now there are not many. They are prisoners convicted of sedition: who are allowed to have their own food sent into them if they wish).

(d) Building of the State "Hospital".

Municipal. Almost the first remark of every European visitor to Kuwait is about the most unusual cleanliness of the streets (due to an Aldermanic system of responsibility) and of the people of Kuwait. The second comment is usually that the people look particularly happy, and the third remark is to contrast Kuwait with Iraq in favour of the former.

In so far as Municipal facilities are concerned there are the usual abattoirs, fish and meat markets under its control, all much improved within the last three years.

There is of course an Electric Light Supply, a Soda Water Factory and an Ice Factory. All these are private enterprises but are under proper official control.

There is a Chamber of Commerce and an Arbitration Court of merchants, as well as a Pearl merchants' and Divers' Disputes Court.

Legal. Appeal can be made from the law Court to the Ruler, who, with his Advisory Council, acts as the Court of Appeal.

40. FRONTIER POSTS.

(i) On March 26th Shaikh Ali al Khalifa, as the Shaikh's

Shaikh's representative, selected sites for the building of two frontier posts, near the Iraq - Kuwait frontier, to be manned by about fifteen men, and have passport control officials.

The Political Agent accompanied Shaikh Ali on his tour, in order to indicate to him, as nearly as possible, the line of the frontier. A courtesy visit was paid by the party to the SAFWAN post. On entering the yard it was found that the Police official in charge was away meeting the Mutassarif in Zubair, and that the attitude of the Iraqi Police towards the Kuwaiti was ugly: they loaded and half raised their rifles, while the car crews mounted their guns. (One man was so excited that he tried to mount it upside down!). That the two parties have met without an incident is very much to the good, but there would have been an incident if the Political Agent had not been there.

(ii) The Kuwait frontier post, which the party replaced, was removed again next day. (In 1932 the Mutassarif of Basra officially noted and recorded the position of this post, according to a letter to the Political Agent from his Adviser Mr.Jardine).

On the 28th, passing travellers reported that not only had the board been removed but the holes in which it was placed had been carefully filled in and the ground smoothed over.

This kind of thing, it can be safely assumed, is not the work of idle Bedouins, but of the Iraqi Police, and while it is not of very grave importance, it shows the mischievousness caused by Baghdad propaganda.

## 41. SHAIKH'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Completely without warning and contrary to an official understanding, on the 18th, the Kaimakam of Abul Khasib served a demand note for £ 19,480, from the heirs of Shaikh Mubarak, on account of past taxes, the note saying that if the amount was not paid within ten days, the properties would be attached. There was no description of the estates which were to be attached, and the method of the calculation of the taxes which were claimed were omitted from the note. Before the ten days were up, the

Fao/

Shaikh's representative, selected sites for the building of two frontier posts, near the Iraq - Kuwait frontier, to be manned by about fifteen men, and have passport control officials.

The Political Agent accompanied Shaikh Ali on his tour, in order to indicate to him, as nearly as possible, the line of the frontier. A courtesy visit was paid by the party to the SAFWAN post. On entering the yard it was found that the Police official in charge was away meeting the Mutassarif in Zubair, and that the attitude of the Iraqi Police towards the Kuwaiti was ugly: they loaded and half raised their rifles, while the car crews mounted their guns. (One man was so excited that he tried to mount it upside down!). That the two parties have met without an incident is very much to the good, but there would have been an incident if the Political Agent had not been there.

(ii) The Kuwait frontier post, which the party replaced, was removed again next day. (In 1932 the Mutassarif of Basra officially noted and recorded the position of this post, according to a letter to the Political Agent from his Adviser Mr.Jardine).

On the 28th, passing travellers reported that not only had the board been removed but the holes in which it was placed had been carefully filled in and the ground smoothed over.

This kind of thing, it can be safely assumed, is not the work of idle Bedouins, but of the Iraqi Police, and while it is not of very grave importance, it shows the mischievousness caused by Baghdad propaganda.

41. SHAIKH'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Completely without warning and contrary to an official understanding, on the 18th, the Kaimakam of Abul Khasib served a demand note for £ 19,480, from the heirs of Shaikh Mubarak, on account of past taxes, the note saying that if the amount was not paid within ten days, the properties would be attached. There was no description of the estates which were to be attached, and the method of the calculation of the taxes which were claimed were omitted from the note. Before the ten days were up, the

Fao/

Fao and Faddaghiya estates complete were both seized by the Mudir of Fao, on behalf of the Iraq Government. The tenents were evicted and others installed, and, according to the Shaikh's evicted sub-agent from Fao, the Mudir immediately announced that he would welcome offers of purchase.

On the last day of the month official information from Baghdad was received that an order for the restoration of his estates to the Shaikh had been issued from there to the Mutassarif Basra.

42. IRAQ POLICE INCURSIONS INTO KUWAIT TERRITORY.

Two Iraqi police cars arrived about 5-30 p.m on March 20th near camps 3 miles north west of JAHRA, i.e. 50 miles inside Kuwait territory. After dark, as they left the scene, the cars fired on the camps and towards the village with machine guns. There were no casualties. It seems to have been bravado.

43. IRAQ.

On March 19th it was rumoured that all road traffic from Iraq to Kuwait had been stopped by the Iraqi authorities. It was subsequently discovered that the incoming mails had been turned back from the frontier by MEKKI EFFENDI, the Police Superintendent at SAFWAN, and that while cars were allowed to go into Iraq none of any kind would be allowed to enter Kuwait.

This state of affairs continued on the 20th and 21st, so that the waiting and angry Kuwaiti passengers accumulated at Zubair. The Kuwait Oil Company was informed by telegraph by their Basra agent that this order also applied to their lorries, which, if they entered Iraq, would have to obtain special permission in each case for return.

The only information telegraphed by the Basra Consulate, in reply to enquiries by the Agency, was that "the Iraqi Police" and the Mutassarif stated that the passengers stopped were "those suspected of propaganda against the Shaikh".

Early on the 21st, passengers and Kuwait cars from Iraq were again permitted to enter Kuwait. According to the Kuwait passen-

gers/

Fao and Yadaghiya estates complete were both seized by the Mudir of Fao, on behalf of the Iraq Government. The tenants were evicted and others installed, and, according to the Shaikh's evicted sub-agent from Fao, the Mudir immediately announced that he would welcome offers of purchase.

On the last day of the month official information from Baghdad was received that an order for the restoration of his estates to the Shaikh had been issued from there to the Mutasarrif Basra.

42. IRAQ POLICE INCURSIONS INTO KUWAIT TERRITORY.

Two Iraqi police cars arrived about 5-30 p.m on March 20th near camps 3 miles north west of JAHRA, i.e. 30 miles inside Kuwait territory. After dark, as they left the scene, the cars fired on the camps and towards the village with machine guns. There were no casualties. It seems to have been bravado.

43. IRAQ.

On March 19th it was rumoured that all road traffic from Iraq to Kuwait had been stopped by the Iraqi authorities. It was subsequently discovered that the incoming mails had been turned back from the frontier by HEKKI EFFENDI, the Police Superintendent at SAFWAN, and that while cars were allowed to go into Iraq none of any kind would be allowed to enter Kuwait.

This state of affairs continued on the 20th and 21st, so that the waiting and angry Kuwaiti passengers accumulated at Zubair. The Kuwait Oil Company was informed by telegraph by their Basra agent that this order also applied to their lorries, which, if they entered Iraq, would have to obtain special permission in each case for return.

The only information telegraphed by the Basra Consulate, in reply to enquiries by the Agency, was that "the Iraqi Police" and the Mutasarrif stated that the passengers stopped were "those suspected of propaganda against the Shaikh".

Early on the 21st, passengers and Kuwait cars from Iraq were again permitted to enter Kuwait. According to the Kuwait passen-

gers/

452
465



they had heard before leaving that "Permission has been received for you from Baghdad" but no other explanation was given them.

So far as is known, the Mutassarif of Basra has not informed the British authorities about this new system of checking all passengers to Kuwait, including British, at the Basra Police office where they must seek permission to come to Kuwait and, according to a British Indian official, also give their reasons.

ABDULLA SAQAR, leader of the recent agitation against the Shaikh of Kuwait, has a certain number of followers, who had committed themselves to him to such an extent that they thought it best to leave Kuwait in a hurry after the events of March 10th.

Most of them are living on Saqar in Basra. Abdulla Saqar was in touch with the notorious "MATHANNA CLUB" in Baghdad and through it probably has connection with pro-Germans (Authority Royal Air Force Intelligence Summary). A personality list of these persons is attached as an appendix to this summary.

44. IRAQI PRESS AND PROPAGANDA.

(a) The following is an extract from the beginning of an article in "Al Istiqlal" newspaper of Baghdad, dated March 6th, 1939:

> "Last night (5.3.39) the Qasr az Zihour radio station announced the following in repudiation of the falsehoods made by the London Broadcasting Station".

(b) With the exception of articles in "An Nas" and "As Sijil" papers, there have been far less in the Iraq press about Kuwait during this period, i.e. March 15th onwards.

(c) King Ghazi's Birthday Broadcast speech ended as follows:

> "Before concluding I should like to turn with my thoughts to our Arab brothers in Syria and Kuwait, in whose future and welfare we are interested, hoping that with the beginning of the new year their national ideals may be obtained".

and not as was reported in the newspaper, i.e. without the mention of Syria and Kuwait.

45. GERMANY.

The Attache' of the German Legation in Baghdad has applied for a visa to visit Kuwait.

-7-

they had heard before leaving that "Permission has been received for you from Baghdad" but no other explanation was given them.

So far as is known, the Mutasarrif of Basra has not informed the British authorities about this new system of checking all passengers to Kuwait, including British, at the Basra Police office where they must seek permission to come to Kuwait and, according to a British Indian official, also give their reasons.

ABDULLA SAQAR, leader of the recent agitation against the Shaikh of Kuwait, has a certain number of followers, who had committed themselves to him to such an extent that they thought it best to leave Kuwait in a hurry after the events of March 10th.

Most of them are living on Saqar in Basra. Abdulla Saqar was in touch with the notorious "MATHANNA CLUB" in Baghdad and through it probably has connection with pro-Germans (Authority Royal Air Force Intelligence Summary). A personality list of these persons is attached as an appendix to this summary.

44. IRAQI PRESS AND PROPAGANDA.

(a) The following is an extract from the beginning of an article in "Al Istiqlal" newspaper of Baghdad, dated March 8th, 1939:

"Last night (8.3.39) the Qasr az Zuhour radio station announced the following in repudiation of the falsehoods made by the London Broadcasting Station".

(b) With the exception of articles in "An Nas" and "As Sijil" papers, there have been far less in the Iraq press about Kuwait during this period, i.e. March 15th onwards.

(c) King Ghazi's Birthday Broadcast speech ended as follows:

"Before concluding I should like to turn with my thoughts to our Arab brothers in Syria and Kuwait, in whose future and welfare we are interested, hoping that with the beginning of the new year their national ideals may be obtained".

and not as was reported in the newspaper, i.e. without the mention of Syria and Kuwait.

45. GERMANY.

The Attache' of the German Legation in Baghdad has applied for a visa to visit Kuwait.

46. JAPANESE.

A Japanese attached to the mission, now in Saudi Arabia under the Japanese Minister at Cairo, has applied for a visa to visit Kuwait.

47. SAUDI ARABIA.

On March 27th, London and Palestine, Arabic Broadcast, mentioned an official Saudi communique to the Egyptian Press, in which Ibn Saud emphatically denied a newspaper report that he was agreeable to the inclusion of Kuwait in Iraq. "Kuwait is Kuwaiti and belongs to the Kuwaitis" was, the communique said, his attitude. This has had a good effect locally.

His Majesty the King is here reported to be coming to see his oilfields in Eastern Arabia between about the 10th and 15th April.

48. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 78 F. |
| Minimum temperature | 51 F. |
| Rainfall during the period under review | 0. 10 " |
| Total rainfall up to March 31st | 4-66 " |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

3rd April, 1939.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department.
3. His Majesty's Representative, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya, Iraq.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, Royal Air Force, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

-8-

46. JAPANESE.

A Japanese attached to the mission, now in Saudi Arabia under the Japanese Minister at Cairo, has applied for a visa to visit Kuwait.

47. SAUDI ARABIA.

On March 27th, London and Palestine, Arabic broadcast, mentioned an official Saudi communique to the Egyptian Press, in which Ibn Saud emphatically denied a newspaper report that he was agreeable to the inclusion of Kuwait in Iraq. "Kuwait is Kuwaiti and belongs to the Kuwaitis" was, the communique said, his attitude. This has had a good effect locally.

His Majesty the King is here reported to be coming to see his oilfields in Eastern Arabia between about the 10th and 15th April.

48. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 78 F. |
| Minimum temperature | 51 F. |
| Rainfall during the period under review | 0. 10 " |
| Total rainfall up to March 31st | 4-66 " |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury

3rd April, 1939. Political Agent, Kuwait.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department.
3. His Majesty's Representative, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.I.3, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, New Delhi
7. His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniya, Iraq.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf Division.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203 (GR) Squadron, Royal Air Force, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

# APPENDIX.

## KUWAITIS WHO HAVE RECENTLY LEFT KUWAIT, HAVING BEEN ENGAGED IN AGITATION.

---

(a) ABDULLA SAQAR. Former member of Kuwait Council owns seven cargo sailing ships, and has date gardens in Iraq, is in heavily debt in Kuwait, and it is said also in Iraq. Head of the SAQAR clan which is of Anaiza tribal origin.

Living in Basra. Pro-Iraq and Anti-Shaikh activities were probably motivated by desire to get out of paying the debts to Shaikh and to preserve his estates in Iraq, but there is an ancient feud between the SAQARS and the SUBAH (Ruling family of Kuwait).

(b) MOHOMMAD BARRAK. Reported to be living on sums provided by (a). Was in trouble for Iraq activities in 1938. See paragraph 45(a) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 6 of 1938. According to SAUT AL AHRAR news paper, was imprisoned in Syria for pro-Iraq activities end of March 1939. Is a little mad. Has bad squint.

(c) KHALID AL ATSANI Former Secretary of Council, reported to be living on sums provided by (a).

(d) AHMAD AS SIHHAN Clerk to (c) and Secretary of the late "Youth Movement". In Basra.

(e) GHANIM AS SAQAR Unemployed. His father attempted to assasinate a former Shaikh of Kuwait. In Basra.

(f) ABDUL MUHSIN AL AQAILI. Has taken out Iraqi nationality, now working in Basra as an auctioneer of boats and a ships chandler.

(g) FALAIH ALI A member of the late Youth Party, a grain merchant. In Basra.

(h) JASSIM SAQAR. A member of the late Youth Party. Was and still is in school at Basra. Younger brother of (a), aged about 14. Wild and irresponsible. Always carries an automatic pistol.

(i) MUHAMMAD TATTABAI. A member of the late Youth Party - paid out of "Secret Service Fund" by the former Kuwait Council and now living on sums from (a).

(j) HAMAD HABIB TETTAN A member of the late Youth Party, and formerly clerk in the Council's pay, living in house of (a) at Basra.

(k) AHMAD FAWZAN Member of the Committee of the late Youth Party - in secret pay of late Council - grand father Abdulla Fawzan lives in Bombay where he will probably go.

(l) JASSIM SUDAIRAWI. Member of the late Youth Party, date merchant reported to be leaving Iraq for Bombay, where he will be in touch with [illegible]

APPENDIX.

KUWAITIS WHO HAVE RECENTLY LEFT KUWAIT, HAVING BEEN ENGAGED IN AGITATION.

---

(a) ABDULLA SAQAR. Former member of Kuwait Council owns seven cargo sailing ships, and has date gardens in Iraq, is in heavily debt in Kuwait, and it is said also in Iraq. Head of the SAQAR clan which is of Anaiza tribal origin.

Living in Basra. Pro-Iraq and Anti-Shaikh activities were probably motivated by desire to get out of paying the debts to Shaikh and to preserve his estates in Iraq, but there is an ancient feud between the SAQAR and the SUBAH (ruling family of Kuwait).

(b) MOHAMMAD BASRAK. Reported to be living on sums provided by (a). Was in trouble for Iraq activities in 1938. See paragraph 45(a) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 6 of 1938. According to SAUT AL ARAB news paper, was imprisoned in Syria for pro-Iraq activities end of March 1939. Is a little mad. Has bad squint.

(c) KHALID AL ATSANI Former Secretary of Council, reported to be living on sums provided by (a).

(d) AHMAD AS SIHMAN Clerk to (c) and Secretary of the late "Youth Movement". In Basra.

(e) GHANIM AS SAQAR Unemployed. His father attempted to assassinate a former Shaikh of Kuwait. In Basra.

(f) ABDUL MUHSIN AL AQAILI. Has taken out Iraqi nationality, now working in Basra as an auctioneer of boats and a ships chandler.

(g) FALAIH ALI A member of the late Youth Party, a grain merchant. In Basra.

(h) JASSIM SAQAR. A member of the late Youth Party. Was and still is in school at Basra. Younger brother of (a), aged about 14. Wild and irresponsible. Always carries an automatic pistol.

(i) MOHAMMAD TATTAWI. A member of the late Youth Party - paid out of "Secret Services Fund" by the former Kuwait Council and now living on sums from (a).

(j) HAMAD HABIB TEITAN A member of the late Youth Party, and formerly clerk in the Council's pay, living in house of (a) at Basra.

(k) AHMAD FAWZAN Member of the Committee of the late Youth Party - in secret pay of late Council - grand father Abdulla Fawzan lives in Bombay where he will probably go.

(l) JASSIM SUDAIRAWI. Member of the late Youth Party, date merchant reported to be leaving Iraq for Bombay, where he will be in touch with GHANI ABU SHAWARB,

PA
Rel 27/4

465
(468)

Notes.

Minute Paper.

Register No.
P.Z.
2021/39

SECRET.
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated 193 .
Rec.

| | Date. | Initials. | SUBJECT. |
|---|---|---|---|
| To | | | KUWAIT. |
| Under Secretary ..... | 8.4 | [initials] | Intelligence Summary for March |
| Secretary of State ... | | | 1st - 15th. Internal politics. |
| Committee ........... | 24. 4. | [initials] | |
| Under Secretary ..... | | | |
| Secretary of State.... | | | |

Copy of to

FOR INFORMATION.

Para 30-[illegible] of this summary gives the fullest account hitherto received of the disturbances of March 9th - 12th at Kuwait; of their effect on the position of the Council, still functioning but definitely subordinated to the Sheikh; + of the reactions, very favourable to Kuwait, in Saudi Arabia, Transjordan, Bahrain + Muscat.

Para 33 reports the issue of the first Gulf newspaper ('Al Bahrain) in Bahrain.

C.E.M. Hemingway 5.4.39

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
26 APR 1939

[signature] 18/4 [signature] 26/4

7193 Wt 10380/P 121 1000 5.38

30/45 (2) 466 469

SECRET. No. 5 of 1939.

1744





KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st to 15th March, 1939.





26. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "BIDEFORD" (Captain D. Young Jamieson, RN) arrived here on the 4th and left on the 6th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

27. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

The Air Officer Commanding in Iraq has ordered a field wireless set to be sent to Kuwait. Two airmen and the set arrived on February 28th, and so the Agency is no longer obliged to be dependent on a single Iraq line, which naturally breaks down from time to time, and could be cut at a moments notice by ill-disposed persons. (Kuwait must be one of the last places of any size in Arabia to be acquiring wireless communications, as even outlying forts and small towns in Saudi Arabia now have Wireless Telegraphy). It is hoped that some satisfactory arrangement will be come to before long for an up to date post office in Kuwait.

(b) Anglo Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

Two aeroplanes of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd came here from Abadan on the 5th and returned the same day.

(c) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

28. MOVEMENTS.

(a) The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, KCIE., CBE., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, returned to Bushire on board H.M.S. "Bideford" on the 6th.



Lady Fowle and Major A.C. Galloway, Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, returned to Bushire by the slow Gulf mail on the 5th. The latter returned to Kuwait on the 14th, and left for Basra en route

for/

SECRET.

No. 5 of 1939.

KUWAIT INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st to 15th March, 1939.



26. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "BIDEFORD" (Captain D. Young Jamieson, RN) arrived here on the 4th and left on the 6th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

27. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

The Air Officer Commanding in Iraq has ordered a field wireless set to be sent to Kuwait. Two airmen and the set arrived on February 28th, and so the Agency is no longer obliged to be dependent on a single Iraq line, which naturally breaks down from time to time, and could be cut at a moments notice by ill-disposed persons. (Kuwait must be one of the last places of any size in Arabia to be acquiring wireless communications, as even outlying forts and small towns in Saudi Arabia now have Wireless Telegraphy). It is hoped that some satisfactory arrangement will be come to before long for an up to date post office in Kuwait.

(b) Anglo Iranian Oil Co. Ltd.

Two aeroplanes of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd came here from Abadan on the 5th and returned the same day.

(c) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

28. MOVEMENTS.

(a) The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, KCIE., CBE., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, returned to Bushire on board H.M.S. "Bideford" on the 6th.

Lady Fowle and Major A.C. Galloway, Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, returned to Bushire by the slow Gulf mail on the 8th. The latter returned to Kuwait on the 14th, and left for Basra en route for/

467

(470)



for the United Kingdom on March 15th.

Mr. de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Basra on the 15th and returned on the 16th.

(b) Major Frank Holmes, Oil Concessionaire, left for Bahrain by the Gulf Slow mail on the 5th.

(c) Lord and Lady Stratheden landed from the slow mail on the 8th en route to Tehran via Baghdad.

29. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Nil.

30. LOCAL INTERESTS. No 5 of 1939

(a) Reference paragraph 23 of Intelligence Summary No. 4 of 1939.

The Second Kuwait Council, which had not functioned as such, owing to their reluctance to accept the Shaikh's veto, which, previously to their election, they had agreed to accept, was dissolved on March 7th.

Some of the members, loath to abandon their position, and naturally much encouraged by the extraordinary and violent spate of broadcast and press propaganda from Iraq against the Ruler of Kuwait, counselled delay in handing over the papers and accounts of the Council to the Shaikh. They seemed to feel that, as long as they had some papers in their possession, they were still entitled to call themselves Members of Council, although they had already been dissolved and in any case had never functioned. They were at last persuaded to hand in their papers when a Kuwaiti arrived from Iraq, where he had long lived, one MUHAMMAD AL MUNAIS, a former water carrier in Kuwait, and addressed a seemingly authoritative and certainly impassioned speech to them and issued leaflets declaring the Ruling family deposed. This made the ex-members hesitate again.

The next morning the 10th, when MUHAMMAD BIN MUNAIS was being taken to prison under arrest, an ex-member of Council, the hot-head YUSUF MARZOOK, and another follower of the Council,

468
471

-3-

Council, MUHAMMAD AL QITAMI, endeavoured to secure his release. There was an altercation. Muhammad fired on the Police and Yusif drew and aimed his revolver. The Police replied, mortally wounding Muhammad, striking Yusif in the foot, and hitting a nearby shopkeeper in the posterior. The tribesmen, and other military followers of the Shaikh then immediately flew to arms, and maddened as they had been by three weeks of intensive propaganda against their Ruler, were out to stand no nonsense from his opponents. The situation was a most dangerous one, and Shaikh Ahmad had great difficulty in restraining the populace and his followers. He was slightly injured by a rifle butt of one of his own men in doing so, and only secured some semblance of order by promising an immediate trial of Muhammad Munais. He was tried, convicted as traitor and sentenced to death, the public execution taking place the same day. Public feeling then began to be allayed, and order was restored by the evening. Had the execution not taken place there would have been serious disorders, with probable loss of many lives. On the other hand, it can be safely said that the change of Council would have proceeded without bloodshed if there had not been three weeks of intensive and disturbing Iraqi propaganda, followed up by the emissary Muhammad al Munais. It is agreed in Kuwait that those in Baghdad who have counselled such methods have the life blood of the two dead Kuwaiti Arabs on their hands, and that, as far as is known, no internal disorder and bloodshed of this kind has ever taken place in Kuwait before.

Presumably Md. al Qitami

cf para 31(2)

Up to the time of writing this report the Iraqi propaganda which became intensified about February 12th had not ceased, and the heavily indebted Kuwaiti malcontent, ABDULLA SAQAR, was still being treated with honour.

See para 3(iii) of previous summary

On the 11th five former members of Council were arrested, a number of other people were detained, or were

-3-

Council, MUHAMMAD AL QITAMI, endeavoured to secure his release. There was an altercation. Muhammad fired on the Police and Yusif drew and aimed his revolver. The Police replied, mortally wounding Muhammad, striking Yusif in the foot, and hitting a nearby shopkeeper in the posterior. The tribesmen, and other military followers of the Shaikh then immediately flew to arms, and maddened as they had been by three weeks of intensive propaganda against their Ruler, were out to stand no nonsense from his opponents. The situation was a most dangerous one, and Shaikh Ahmad had great difficulty in restraining the populace and his followers. He was slightly injured by a rifle butt of one of his own men in doing so, and only secured some semblance of order by promising an immediate trial of Muhammad Munais. He was tried, convicted as traitor and sentenced to death, the public execution taking place the same day. Public feeling then began to be allayed, and order was restored by the evening. Had the execution not taken place there would have been serious disorders, with probable loss of many lives. On the other hand, it can be safely said that the change of Council would have proceeded without bloodshed if there had not been three weeks of intensive and disturbing Iraqi propaganda, followed up by the emissary Muhammad al Munais. It is agreed in Kuwait that those in Baghdad who have counselled such methods have the life blood of the two dead Kuwaiti Arabs on their hands, and that, as far as is known, no internal disorder and bloodshed of this kind has ever taken place in Kuwait before.

Up to the time of writing this report the Iraqi propaganda which became intensified about February 1939 had not ceased, and the heavily indebted Kuwaiti malcontent, ABDULLA SAQAR, was still being treated with honour.

On the 11th five former members of Council were arrested, a number of other people were detained, or were

temporarily put under "protective arrest" and since have been released, while some others were arrested and tried.

(2) His Highness formed a new and representative Advisory Council, of 14 members on the 12th and it commenced its sittings on the 13th. Its composition is nine notables, the remainder of the members being of the SUBAH family.

(3) In connection with these recent events, the Shaikh has received most friendly telegrams and letters of congratulation from the King of Saudi Arabia, (whose vivid communications come by telegraph to Jarya al Ilya and thence by car, almost every other day just now), from His Royal Highness the Emir Abdulla bin Hussein of Transjordan, (who sent a particularly cordial message of sympathy, having himself recently suffered from the Baghdad broadcast), His Highness the Shaikh Hamad bin Isa of Bahrain, (whose rule and whose British Advisor has also been villified by Baghdad Press and Broadcast), from His Highness the Sultan of Muscat and Oman, (who himself has not been spared by the Baghdad and Basra gutter Press), and from numerous other potentates and Arabian notables. In fact, the Iraq attack seems to have served to emphasize the solidarity of the Arabians.

From the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and British officials there have come special messages and congratulation on Shaikh Ahmad's escape from serious injury.

(4) The B.B.C. Arabic broadcast, which gave short but accurate accounts of recent events in Kuwait, and reported a question and answer in the House of Commons, arising out of the Iraqi propaganda, did much to encourage the loyal populace of Kuwait, who had for some weeks heard nothing about Kuwait except the references by Baghdad to its resemblance to the Sudetenland and its suggested occupation by the Iraq Army.

(5) Sayid Hamid an Naqib, a deputy for Basra in the Iraq Chamber, has written to the Shaikh to say that he wishes to come to Kuwait to tell him the truth about high politics

and/

-4-

temporarily put under "protective arrest" and since have been released, while some others were arrested and tried.

(2) His Highness formed a new and representative Advisory Council, of 14 members on the 12th and it commenced its sittings on the 13th. Its composition is nine notables, the remainder of the members being of the SUBAH family.

(3) In connection with these recent events, the Shaikh has received most friendly telegrams and letters of congratulation from the King of Saudi Arabia, (whose vivid communications come by telegraph to Jafya al Ilyn and thence by car, almost every other day just now), from His Royal Highness the Emir Abdulla bin Hussein of Transjordan, (who sent a particularly cordial message of sympathy, having himself recently suffered from the Baghdad broadcast), His Highness the Shaikh Hamad bin Isa of Bahrain, (whose rule and whose British Advisor has also been vilified by Baghdad Press and Broadcast), from His Highness the Sultan of Muscat and Oman, (who himself has not been spared by the Baghdad and Basra gutter Press), and from numerous other potentates and Arabian notables. In fact, the Iraq attack seems to have served to emphasize the solidarity of the Arabians.

From the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and British officials there have come special messages and congratulation on Shaikh Ahmad's escape from serious injury

(4) The B.B.C. Arabic broadcast, which gave short but accurate accounts of recent events in Kuwait, and reported a question and answer in the House of Commons, arising out of the Iraqi propaganda, did much to encourage the loyal populace of Kuwait, who had for some weeks heard nothing about Kuwait except the references by Baghdad to its resemblance to the Sudetenland and its suggested occupation by the Iraq Army.

(5) Sayid Hamid an Naqib, a deputy for Basra in the Iraq Chamber, has written to the Shaikh to say that he wishes to come to Kuwait to tell him the truth about high politics

and/

470
473

-5-

and recent events in Baghdad, but private information from official quarters in Iraq goes to show that Saiyid Hamid is believed there to be bringing apologies from Nuri Pasha.

(6) The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, who was accompanied by the Political Agent, presented the C.I.E to Shaikh Abdulla Salim in the presence of His Highness, Captain Young Jamieson, RN, officers and men of H.M.S. "Bideford", and the notables and public of Kuwait on March 5th. Much enthusiasm was shown by the populace, particularly by the women, whose shrill Zigarid marked, in unusual fashion, the arrival and departure of the Resident at the Shaikh's pavilion.

31. SAUDI ARABIA.

(1) The following is an extract of an article which appeared in the UMM AL QURA of Mekka, dated March 3, 1939:-

"The Arab daily paper "An-Nahar" of Beirut has published a letter sent by its correspondent in Basra, dated 2nd January in which the writer attacked bitterly His Highness the Emir of Kuwait, whom, he said, was supported by Ibn Saud who was afraid of the Shabab al Katlawi, the Youth Movement, as it was about to spread into Nejd."

We reply to this as follows:

The relationship existing between the two families, al-Saud and al-Subah is an old one. It is rather brotherhood than a mere friendship. His Majesty the King being a true and faithful Arab and the Master of Arab fidelity, is bound to be faithful guardian to the prominent and notable Arab families. It is not strange if His Highness the Amir of Kuwait expects kindness from His Majesty the King, as the two families have been true friends since long ago. His Majesty was very angry when he heard that a few Nejdis who live in Kuwait had backed

ed/

and recent events in Baghdad, but private information from official quarters in Iraq goes to show that Saiyid Hamid is believed there to be bringing apologies from Nuri Pasha.

(5) The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, who was accompanied by the Political Agent, presented the C.I.E to Shaikh Abdulla Salim in the presence of His Highness, Captain Young Jamieson, RN, officers and men of H.M.S. "Wideford", and the notables and public of Kuwait on March 8th. Much enthusiasm was shown by the populace, particularly by the women, whose shrill Hagarid marked, in an unusual fashion, the arrival and departure of the Resident at the Shaikh's pavilion.

31. SAUDI ARABIA.

(1) The following is an extract of an article which appeared in the UMM AL QURA of Mekka, dated March 3, 1939:-

"The Arab daily paper "An-Nahar" of Beirut has published a letter sent by its correspondent in Basra, dated 2nd January in which the writer attacked bitterly His Highness the Emir of Kuwait, whom, he said, was supported by Ibn Saud who was afraid of the Shabab al Kahlawi, the Youth Movement, as it was about to spread into Nejd."

We reply to this as follows:

The relationship existing between the two families, al-Saud and al-Subah is an old one. It is rather brotherhood than a mere friendship. His Majesty the King being a true and faithful Arab and the Master of Arab fidelity, is bound to be faithful guardian to the prominent and notable Arab families. It is not strange if His Highness the Amir of Kuwait expects kindness from His Majesty the King, as the two families have been true friends since long ago. His Majesty was very angry when he heard that a few Nejdis who live in Kuwait had spoken

-6-

by the reactionaries against His Highness the Amir of Kuwait. His Majesty the King has decided to punish the mischief makers for going against the nature of the Arabs. They have committed a crime against the kind Amir who had treated them with our Arab hospitality. By writing as he did the correspondent of "An-Nahar" paper has proved his ignorance of the real facts and from his writing, we understand that he knows nothing about Nejd and the Nejdis. There is a great difference between our brains and the brain of this Basri correspondent, who has already proved himself to have no brain or any common sense. We have to declare that His Majesty the King is the heart and soul of all Nejd and the Nejdis. He (the King) is considered to be the only Protector of the Nejdis after God. His Majesty has done for us more than what we expected him to do. We are living in peace and prosperity. No oppression, no persecution and no one is suffering injustice, but everybody is living with contented mind. I may assure the said Basri correspondent that no one in all Nejd expects to have better than this happy life on earth, but only in Paradise. We Nejdis are true Arabs and true Muhammadans as well. We pay no heed to what you call "The Modern Civilization", which is more or less against our religious and moral law. The Basri correspondent should have considered the fact that we Nejdis prefer our present Government and beloved King to any other system of Governments in the world. Thank God, the Holy Koran is read daily and everyone is careful in observance of his worship and daily prayer etc. We are all ready to obey the orders of His Majesty to fight in the name of God. Thus there is a great difference between the writer of that message and ourselves, thank God".

(2)/

(2) The Shaikhs Abdul Mohsin al Hizir and Jarbu, Shaikhs of the Beni Khalid, with their followers, arrived in Kuwait on March 9th for the annual visit. These old oddities, hennaed of beard and most noble of lineage, descended from the builders of the original KUT, or defensive tower, after which this town is named, immediately placed their services at the disposal of the Shaikh, being sure, as they said, that their King would desire them to do so.

32. IRAQ.

(1) The Iraqi Post office, which has long maintained its independence of, and sometimes, according to the character of the particular postmaster at the time, defied the local authorities, was recently, in the stress of the immediate political circumstances, given its orders by the Shaikh, and a measure of censorship and control temporarily instituted. The Postmaster some days later announced that "no objection had been raised by the Iraqi Cabinet".

post office file

(2) Incursions by the Iraqi Police.

The Ruler reported incursions by the Iraqi Police on the 9th and 15th March as far as four miles North of Jahra, (at the head of the Kuwait Bay). The evidence has been forwarded to the proper authorities, but independent corroboration was given to the Political Agent by various Bedouins camped on the way to the frontier, on the 15th.

On the 16th, the Political Agent spoke to the new Iraqi Police Superintendent at SAFWAN, on the frontier. He is a Baghdadi called MEKKI and either pretended not to know, or did not know the meaning of the Bedouin Arabic words for the simplest things, or anything about the desert.

33. BAHRAIN.

The first issue of "al Bahrain", the first Gulf newspaper, was received with great enthusiasm in Kuwait, where its articles on Kuwait affairs were much liked.

34/

-7-



(2) The Shaikhs Abdul Mohsin al Hizir and Jarbu, Shaikhs of the Beni Khalid, with their followers, arrived in Kuwait on March 9th for the annual visit. These old oddities, hennaed of beard and most noble of lineage, descended from the builders of the original KUT, or defensive tower, after which this town is named, immediately placed their services at the disposal of the Shaikh, being sure, as they said, that their King would desire them to do so.

32. Iraq.

(1) The Iraqi Post Office, which has long maintained its independence of, and sometimes, according to the character of the particular postmaster at the time, defied the local authorities, was recently, in the stress of the immediate political circumstances, given its orders by the Shaikh, and a measure of censorship and control temporarily instituted. The Postmaster some days later announced that "no objection had been raised by the Iraqi Cabinet"!

(2) Incursions by the Iraqi Police.

The Ruler reported incursions by the Iraqi Police on the 9th and 15th March as far as four miles North of Jahra, (at the head of the Kuwait Bay). The evidence has been forwarded to the proper authorities, but independent corroboration was given to the Political Agent by various Bedouins camped on the way to the Frontier, on the 15th.

On the 16th, the Political Agent spoke to the new Iraqi Police Superintendent at SAFWAN, on the frontier. He is a Baghdadi called [illegible] and either pretended not to know, or did not know the meaning of the Bedouin Arabic words for the simplest things, or anything about the desert.

33. BAHRAIN.

The first issue of "al Bahrain", the first Gulf newspaper, was received with great enthusiasm in Kuwait, where its articles on Kuwait affairs were much liked.

-8-



34. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature: 80 F.

Minimum temperature: 46 F.

(b) Rainfall during the period under review: 0-18 "

Total rainfall for the winter season to date: 4-56 "

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency,
Kuwait, 17th March, 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 4 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary.
For the period from 16th to
28th February 1939.

*****

19. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

20. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. An R.A.F. aircraft arrived on the 28th with a "Pack" Wireless Apparatus and two operators, which was installed in the Agency.

(b) Imperial Airways. Nil.

21. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

(i) The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle,K.C.I.E. C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Secretary, Major A.C.Galloway, and his Office Staff, arrived on the 20th by the Up Slow Mail from Bahrain.

(ii) Captain T. Hickinbotham, Under Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident arrived on the 15th by the Up Slow Mail from Bahrain, and left for Bushire via Basra by car on the 16th.

Unofficial.

(i) Lady Fowle arrived from Bushire on the 20th.

(ii) Reference paragraph 14, item (i) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 3 of 1939.

Captain H.Grattan, R.E., and his wife left for Bahrain on the 19th by the Down Slow Mail.

(iii) Major Frank Holmes, London Representative of His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait with the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived on the 22nd.



(iv) Monsieur Jean Bourbon, French subject and Representative of Michelin Tyres Company, arrived from Basra on the 23rd and left the same day.

(v)/-

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 4 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
for the period from 16th to
28th February 1939.

19. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

20. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. An R.A.F. aircraft arrived on the 28th with a "Jack" Wireless Apparatus and two operators, which was installed in the Agency.

(b) Imperial Airways. Nil.

21. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

(i) The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Secretary, Major A.C.Galloway, and his Office Staff, arrived on the 20th by the Up Slow Mail from Bahrain.

(ii) Captain T. Hickinbotham, Under Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident arrived on the 15th by the Up Slow Mail from Bahrain, and left for Bushire via Basra by car on the 16th.

Unofficial.

(i) Lady Fowle arrived from Bushire on the 20th.

(ii) Reference paragraph 14, item (i) of Kuwait Intelligence Summary No. 3 of 1939.

Captain M.Gratton, R.N., and his wife left for Bahrain on the 19th by the Down Slow Mail.

(iii) Major Frank Holmes, London Representative of His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait with the Kuwait Oil Company, arrived on the 22nd.

(iv) Monsieur Jean Bourbon, French subject and Representative of Michelin Tyres Company, arrived from Basra on the 23rd and left the same day.

(v)/-

- 2 -

(v) Mr. D.A.C.Bennett, Representative of Dunlop Rubber Company, arrived from Basra on the 25th and left the same day.

(vi) Mr. Sadler, Representative of the Eastern Bank Limited, Basra, arrived from Bahrain by the Up Slow Mail on the 20th and left for Basra by car on the 21st.

22. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S.KOFUKU MARU of YAMASHITA LINE arrived from Japan and landed 16,000 bags of cement and 569 packages of general cargo.

23. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(i) His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait submitted his draft Constitution to the ~~Kuwait~~ Council. After a pause of some days, they wrote to the Shaikh that they disagreed with it; presumably because it reduced the power of the Council. On the same evening the Qasr az-Zuhoor Wireless Station of Baghdad broadcasted that the Council rejected "colonization" and the "despotic" Constitution submitted to the Council by the Ruler.

Council file

24. IRAQ.

Military.

(i) A battalion of the Iraq Army is to be stationed at ZOBEIR, on the Iraqi frontier opposite Kuwait. Health of the troops is given as the reason for this move.

Frontier.

(i) The notice board to mark the entry to Kuwait territory, and the traffic sign, placed by the Kuwait authorities about a mile south of SAFWAN Police Post some years ago, has been removed by persons unknown.

Iraqi propaganda file

Propaganda.

(i) Throughout the period under report, the Qasr az-Zuhoor Wireless Station at Baghdad, which is identified in the/-

- 2 -

(v) Mr. D.A.C.Bennett, Representative of Dunlop Rubber Company, arrived from Basra on the 25th and left the same day.

(vi) Mr. Sadler, Representative of the Eastern Bank Limited, Basra, arrived from Bahrain by the Up Slow Mail on the 20th and left for Basra by car on the 21st.

22. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S.KOFUKU MARU of YAMASHITA LINE arrived from Japan and landed 16,000 bags of cement and 369 packages of general cargo.

23. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(i) His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait submitted his draft Constitution to the Council. After a pause of some days, they wrote to the Shaikh that they disagreed with it; presumably because it reduced the power of the Council. On the same evening the Qasr az-Zuhoor Wireless Station of Baghdad broadcasted that the Council rejected "colonization" and the "despotic" Constitution submitted to the Council by the Ruler.

24. IRAQ.

Military.

(i) A battalion of the Iraq Army is to be stationed at ZOBEIR, on the Iraqi frontier opposite Kuwait. Health of the troops is given as the reason for this move.

Frontier.

(i) The notice board to mark the entry to Kuwait territory, and the traffic sign, placed by the Kuwait authorities about a mile south of Safwan Police Post some years ago, has been removed by persons unknown.

Propaganda.

(i) Throughout the period under report, the Qasr az-Zahoor Wireless Station at Baghdad, which is identified in the/-

- 3 -

the public mind with King Ghazi, and the Iraq Government, continued to broadcast incorrect news about Kuwait, and attacks on His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, his officials and his administration, and called repeatedly for annexation of Kuwait by the Iraq Army. Poems incited the Iraqi Air Force to take action and the Army to march.

(ii) The Iraqi newspapers, and especially AN NAS newspaper of Basra, continued to publish offensive and indecent articles about the Ruler and Kuwaitis, stressing the alleged desire of its people to join Iraq. There were frequent references to the whipping of Kuwaitis, and that the Kuwait prisons were full of political offenders, etc. The propaganda had increased rather than diminished at the end of the month, and there were many tales by returned travellers from Iraq of the Iraqi activity in connection with their attempt to undermine authority in Kuwait, and annex it.

A

(iii) There are in fact a few Kuwaitis who would like to join Iraq, estimates varying between 10 and 80, their leader being Abdulla as Saqur, a man who owns estates in Iraq, which he is frightened of losing, and who owes the Ruler money. It is said that he is hoping to avoid payment of his debts. His younger brother, Jassim as Saqur, educated in Iraq, is the so-called "Leader of the Youth". One of the latter, a townsmen almost unknown here, is now classed by the Iraqi Press and broadcast as "a Shaikh".

25. METEOROLOGICAL.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) Maximum temperature: | 68 F. |
| (b) Minimum temperature: | 46 F. |
| (a) Rainfall during the period under review: | 0.19 inches. |
| (b) Total rainfall for the winter season to date: | 4.38 inches. |

The Political Agency, Kuwait,
The 7th March 1939.

Sd. G.S.de Gaury,
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Usual distribution)

- 3 -

the public mind with King Ghazi, and the Iraq Government, continued to broadcast incorrect news about Kuwait, and attacks on His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait, his officials and his administration, and called repeatedly for annexation of Kuwait by the Iraq Army. Poems incited the Iraqi Air Force to take action and the Army to march.

(ii) The Iraqi newspapers, and especially Al Ikha newspaper of Basra, continued to publish offensive and indecent articles about the Ruler and Kuwaitis, stressing the alleged desire of its people to join Iraq. There were frequent references to the whipping of Kuwaitis, and that the Kuwait prisons were full of political offenders, etc. The propaganda had increased rather than diminished at the end of the month, and there were many tales by returned travellers from Iraq of the Iraqi activity in connection with their attempt to undermine authority in Kuwait, and annex it.

(iii) There are in fact a few Kuwaitis who would like to join Iraq; estimates varying between 10 and 60, their leader being Abdulla as Saqur, a man who owns estates in Iraq, which he is frightened of losing, and who owes the Ruler money. It is said that he is hoping to avoid payment of his debts. His younger brother, Jasim as Saqur, educated in Iraq, is the so-called "Leader of the Youth". One of the latter, a townsman almost unknown here, is now classed by the Iraqi Press and broadcasts as "a Shaikh".

25. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature: 88 F.

(b) Minimum temperature: 46 F.

(c) Rainfall during the period under review: 0.19 inches.

(d) Total rainfall for the winter season to date: 4.38 inches.

The Political Agency, Kuwait,
The 7th March 1939.

Sd. G.S.de Gaury,
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Usual distribution)

CONFIDENTIAL. No. 3 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary.
For the period from 1st to 15th
February 1939.

****

12. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

13. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force aeroplane arrived on the 6th and left the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

14. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by car, on the 9th and returned on the 11th.

Unofficial.

(i) Captain H.Grattan, R.E., and his wife arrived here from Basra by the slow mail on the 4th and stayed in the Agency.

(ii) Major-General H.Waterhouse of the British Army, Chief of the British Mission to the Iraq Army, accompanied by his wife and daughter-in-law, arrived from Basra on the 4th and stayed in the Agency. They returned on the 6th.

15. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 10th and landed 559 packages general goods, 150 empty paper bags and 15,000 bags of cement.



16. IRAQ PROPAGANDA.

(i) On the night of the 12th and 13th, the Qasr az Zihour wireless station, Baghdad, broadcasted some

inaccurate/

CONFIDENTIAL. No. 3 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary.
For the period from 1st to 15th February 1939.

****

12. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

13. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force aeroplane arrived on the 6th and left the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

14. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Basra by car, on the 9th and returned on the 11th.

Unofficial.

(i) Captain E.Grattan, R.E., and his wife arrived here from Basra by the slow mail on the 4th and stayed in the Agency.

(ii) Major-General H.Waterhouse of the British Army, Chief of the British Mission to the Iraq Army, accompanied by his wife and daughter-in-law, arrived from Basra on the 4th and stayed in the Agency. They returned on the 6th.

15. FOREIGN SHIPPING.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived on the 10th and landed 559 packages general goods, 150 empty paper bags and 15,000 bags of cement.



16. IRAQ PROPAGANDA.

(i) On the night of the 12th and 13th, the Qasr az Zihour wireless station, Baghdad, broadcasted some inaccurate/

inaccurate remarks about Kuwait politics and announced that it was the first of a new propaganda broadcast about Persian Gulf affairs.

(ii) During the period under report a number of articles in the Iraqi newspapers spoke of an alleged desire of Kuwait to join Iraq.

17. HIS HIGHNESS, THE SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 125 of the Intelligence Summary No. 17 of 1938.

On the 6th Judgment was given against the Shaikh by the Baghdad Appeal Court, on the ground that the wording of the Surety Bond, prepared and executed by His Highness' lawyer (the guarantor being SAYID HAMID AN NAQIB of BASRA) was not in order. The imperfect verb اكون had been used: whereas the Court thought another word should have been used. The Court, for this reason, gave the case, involving the loss of the Faddaghiya Estate, purchased by SHAIKH MUBARAK in 1914, against the Shaikh and his co-heirs. His Highness had paid the maximum Iraqi appeal tax £.300, at the inception of the appeal. Authorities are being consulted.

18. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature: 66. F.
Minimum temperature: 41. F.

(b) Rainfall.

Rainfall during the period under review: 2.43 inches.

Total rainfall for the winter season to date: 2.24 inches.

The Political Agency, Kuwait,
18th February 1939.

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution - as usual)

- 2 -

inaccurate remarks about Kuwait politics and announced that it was the first of a new propaganda broadcast about Persian Gulf affairs.

(ii) During the period under report a number of articles in the Iraqi newspapers spoke of an alleged desire of Kuwait to join Iraq.

17. HIS HIGHNESS, THE SHAIKH OF KUWAIT'S DATE GARDENS IN IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 125 of the Intelligence Summary No. 17 of 1938.

On the 6th Judgment was given against the Shaikh by the Baghdad Appeal Court, on the ground that the wording of the Surety Bond, prepared and executed by His Highness' lawyer (the guarantor being SAYID HAMID AN NAQIB of BASRA) was not in order. The imperfect verb [illegible] had been used: whereas the Court thought another word should have been used. The Court, for this reason, gave the case, involving the loss of the Faddaghiya Estate, purchased by SHAIKH MUBARAK in 1914, against the Shaikh and his co-heirs. His Highness had paid the maximum Iraqi appeal tax 3.300, at the inception of the appeal. Authorities are being consulted.

18. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature: 66. F.
Minimum temperature: 41. F.

(b) Rainfall.

Rainfall during the period under review: 2.43 inches.

Total rainfall for the winter season to date: 2.24 inches.

The Political Agency, Kuwait,
18th February 1939.

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(Distribution - as usual)

No.2 of 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL.



Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January, 1939.

6. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

7. SHIPPING.

S.S. "Hogu Silverline" of Silver Java Pacific Line arrived from the United States of America and discharged 1,004 bags of sugar and 17 cases of fruit.

8. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, MC., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Amman, Transjordania on the 16th by land route and returned to Kuwait on the 30th via Iraq. In his absence Dr. A.L. Greenway acted for him.

Unofficial.

(i) Mr. H.T. Montague Bell, Journalist and Editor, and his daughter, arrived from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 21st. They stayed with Lieut-Colonel and Mrs. Dickson.

(ii) Mr. L.M. Emberson of Messrs African and Eastern Co.Ltd., Basrah, accompanied by Monsieur Gustav I. Farbstein, Swiss subject, and Representative of Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co.Ltd., Bombay, arrived on the 28th and stayed with Abdur Rahman bin Bahar, a local Arab merchant. They left for Basrah the same day.



9. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. A Royal Air Force aeroplane arrived on the 23rd, and left the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways. One eastbound plane landed on 23rd.

10/.

No. 2 of 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st January, 1939.

6. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

7. SHIPPING.

S.S. "Mogu Silverline" of Silver Java Pacific Line arrived from the United States of America and discharged 1,004 bags of sugar and 17 cases of fruit.

8. MOVEMENTS.

Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, MC., Political Agent, Kuwait, left for Amman, Transjordania on the 16th by land route and returned to Kuwait on the 30th via Iraq. In his absence Mr. A.L. Greenway acted for him.

Unofficial.

(i) Mr. H.T. Montague Bell, Journalist and Editor, and his daughter, arrived from Basrah on the 19th and returned on the 21st. They stayed with Lieut-Colonel and Mrs. Dickson.

(ii) Mr. L.M. Emberson of Messrs African and Eastern Co.Ltd., Basrah, accompanied by Monsieur Gustav I. Tarbstein, Swiss subject, and Representative of Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co.Ltd., Bombay, arrived on the 25th and stayed with Abdur Rahman bin Baher, a local Arab merchant. They left for Basrah the same day.

9. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force. A Royal Air Force aeroplane arrived on the 23rd, and left the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways. One eastbound plane landed on 23rd.

10/.

-2-

10. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Holiday of 'Id al Adha.

In the afternoon of the 30th, 31st and 1st and 2nd of February traditional Nejdi war dances and fantasies were held in the SAFAT Square. Members of the Ruling family led in the war dances of the DAWASIR section.

The Baluch community from India and the Kuwaitis of Persian origin had strongly representative parties each of which took their turn before the Ruler and Shaikh family for whom much enthusiasm was shown.

11. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature 69° F.

(b) Minimum temperature 59° F.

(c) Rainfall.

Rainfall during the period under review:0.4 inches

Total rainfall for the winter season to date 1.81 inches

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(usual distribution )

-3-

10. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Holiday of 'Id al Adha.

In the afternoon of the 20th, 21st and 1st and 2nd of February traditional Najdi war dances and fantasies were held in the SAFAT Square. Members of the Ruling family led in the war dances of the DAWASIR section.

The Baluch community from India and the Kuwaitis of Persian origin had strongly representative parties each of which took their turn before the Ruler and Shaikh family for whom much enthusiasm was shown.

11. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum temperature 89°F.

(b) Minimum temperature 39°F.

(c) Rainfall.

Rainfall during the period under review: 0.4 inches

Total rainfall for the winter season to date 1.81 inches

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

(usual distribution)

No. 1 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January, 1939.

1. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

2. SHIPPING.

JAPANESE.

S.S."Mantai Maru" of the Yamashita line arrived from Japan on the 2nd and landed 42 packages of general goods.

S.S. "Singapore Maru" of the Mitsui line arrived from Japan on the 10th and landed 2,000 paper bags of cement and 163 packages of general goods.

3. MOVEMENTS.

OFFICIAL.

Wing Commander Jope Slade and Major Price of the British Forces in 'Iraq arrived by a R.A.F aircraft on the 10th and left on 12th ~~xxx~~ by the same plane.

Major F.J. McWhinnie of the Royal Air Force arrived here on the 3rd and stayed with Miss Van Pelt of the American Mission. He left on the 10th by a R.A.F. aeroplane.

4. SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference paragraph 171 of Summary for 1938.

(a) His Majesty the King has returned from North East Arabia to Riyadh, which, it is reported by official travellers, he leaves for Mecca on the 16th January.

It is understood that very little women and baggage is being taken because the court will return to Nejd earlier than is customary, after the pilgrimage.

(b) His Majesty is reported to be well. According to a recent calculation by elders in Kuwait, some of them his boyhood contemporaries, quite certain of their facts, His Majesty is now as much as 64 or 65. He was, they say, about

No. 1 of 1939.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th January, 1939.

1. ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

2. SHIPPING.

JAPANESE.

S.S. "Kantai Maru" of the Yamashita line arrived from Japan on the 2nd and landed 42 packages of general goods.

S.S. "Singapore Maru" of the Mitsui line arrived from Japan on the 10th and landed 2,000 paper bags of cement and 163 packages of general goods.

3. MOVEMENTS.

OFFICIAL.

Wing Commander Pope Slade and Major Price of the British Forces in 'Iraq arrived by a R.A.F aircraft on the 10th and left on 12th by the same plane.

Major F.J. McWhinnie of the Royal Air Force arrived here on the 3rd and stayed with Miss Van Pelt of the American Mission. He left on the 10th by a R.A.F. aeroplane.

4. SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference paragraph 171 of Summary for 1938.

(a) His Majesty the King has returned from North East Arabia to Riyadh, which, it is reported by official travellers, he leaves for Mecca on the 15th January.

It is understood that very little women and baggage is being taken because the court will return to Nejd earlier than is customary, after the pilgrimage.

(b) His Majesty is reported to be well. According to a recent calculation by elders in Kuwait, some of them his boyhood contemporaries, quite certain of their facts, His Majesty is now as much as 64 or 65. He was, they say, about

-2-

25, not 20, when he took Riyadh, and was about ten years in Kuwait before that, where he arrived as a grown youth, and not as His Majesty jocularly alleged, when here in 1936, as a baby in one flap of a camel KHURJ, his brother Muhammad being in the flap on the other side of the same camel.

(b) Mr. Whitney Carpenter (of New York) and his wife, American subjects, who went from Kuwait to the King in his hunting camp in North East Arabia on the 29th December, 1938, returned with him to Riyadh where they still were on January 6th, but expecting to leave for Jedda the next day.

(c) It appears that a service of Saudi Diplomatic mails between Riyadh and the Saudi Legation in Baghdad has been instituted. The courier, Salah bin Hamad al Daij, showed his laissez-passer for the mail issued by the Political Diwan in Riyadh, at the Agency on the 13th January.

5. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) Maximum Temperature 65. F
Minimum Temperature. 47. F

(b) Rainfall.
Rainfall during the period under review : 0.36 inches.
Total rainfall for the winter season to date. 1.77 "

Sd/- G.S. de Gaury, Captain.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
16th January, 1939.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Govt.of India, External Affairs Deptt.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O.3"W", General Staff Branch Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, British Forces in Iraq, Habbaniyah.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding, 203 (F.B) Squadron, Basra
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

No.24 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1938.



174. Royal Navy.

Nil.

175. Aviation.

Nil.

176. Shipping.

Nil.

177. Movements.

Colonel David Lamb, O.B.E., of the British Military Mission to the Iraq Army, and Mrs. Lamb, made a private visit to Kuwait on the 15th, returning to Iraq on the 17th.

Sheikh Mubarak bin Hamad Alkhalifa, Sheikh Daij bin Hamad, Sheikh Ahmad bin Ahmad, and Sheikh Ali bin Ahmad, sons of the Ruler of Bahrain, arrived on December 6th for hunting, and left for Bahrain on 24th by the B.I.S.N. Company's Slow Mail. His Highness the Sheikh of Kuwait placed a house at their disposal for the duration of their visit.

178. Local Interests.

(A) Outstanding events during the year 1938 were mentioned in the paragraphs of this Summary shown below

(a) Finding of oil paras 31 and 139

(b) Formation of an elected Council para 90

(c) Dissolution of the first Council and new elections para 178 (B)

Inspite of propaganda from many sources (Palestine etc) relations of the Sheikh and the people of Kuwait with the Agency have remained excellent.

(B) New elections.

On the 17th His Highness the Ruler decided, in view of growing popular opposition to the arbitrary use of its power, to dissolve the Kuwait Council, the first elected one in Kuwait, which had been in

No. 24 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 31st December, 1938.

174. Royal Navy.

Nil.

175. Aviation.

Nil.

176. Shipping.

Nil.

177. Movements.

Colonel David Lamb, O.B.E., of the British Military Mission to the Iraq Army, and Mrs. Lamb, made a private visit to Kuwait on the 15th, returning to Iraq on the 17th.

Sheikh Mubarak bin Hamad Alkhalifa, Sheikh Daij bin Hamad, Sheikh Ahmad bin Ahmad, and Sheikh Ali bin Ahmad, sons of the Ruler of Bahrain, arrived on December 6th for hunting, and left for Bahrain on 24th by the B.I.S.N. Company's Slow Mail. His Highness the Sheikh of Kuwait placed a house at their disposal for the duration of their visit.

178. Local Interests.

(A) Outstanding events during the year 1938 were mentioned in the paragraphs of this Summary shown below

(a) Finding of oil paras 31 and 139

(b) Formation of an elected Council para 90

(c) Dissolution of the first Council and new elections para 179 (B)

Inspite of propaganda from many sources (Palestine etc) relations of the Sheikh and the people of Kuwait with the Agency have remained excellent.

(B) New elections.

On the 17th His Highness the Ruler decided, in view of growing popular opposition to the arbitrary use of its power, to dissolve the Kuwait Council, the first elected one in Kuwait, which had been in

in existence since last July.

There was a tense day, and some very critical moments, on the 18th, when this had become known, as the Council showed of every sign wanting to remain the Council, at all costs, but His Highness, insisted upon a dissolution, and new elections. To this the Council finally submitted.

New elections were therefore held on 24th and the following elected

Yusif bin Issa
Hamad al-Marzuq
Khalid Al Abdul Latif
Mashan al Khudhair
Muhammad bin Shahin
Sultan al Kulaib
Abdullah al Saqur
Mishari al Hasan
Abdul Latif al Thunayan
Sayid Ali Sayid Sulaiman
Ahmad bin Khamis
Yusif al Humaidhi
Ali al Banwan
Sulaiman al Adsani
Salih al Othman
Ali al Abdul Wahhab
Mishari al Hilal
Muhammad al Ahmad al Ghanim
Nusf bin Yusuf
Yusuf al Adsani

The total is now 20 members instead of 14.

The Electorate has been enlarged and numbered 400 instead of 150.

The President is Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., as before.

His Highness has appointed Shaikh Ali al Khalifa as Subah, Director of Security, and various other members of his family have taken up superior posts in the administration.

179. <u>Socotra Island, Indian Ocean.</u>

The master and owner, Mohsin bin Hamad al Mahri, and the "Muallam", Mohsin bin Salim, of the Socotran sailing ship Fateh-ul-Khair reported themselves at the Agency on December 30th as saved from the total wreck of their vessel, off Fao Iraq. They give the

-2-

in existence since last July.

There was a tense day, and some very critical moments, on the 18th, when this had become known, as the Council showed of every sign wanting to remain the Council, at all costs, but His Highness, insisted upon a dissolution, and new elections. To this the Council finally submitted.

New elections were therefore held on 24th and the following elected

Yusif bin Issa
Hamad al-Marzuq
Khalid Al Abdul Latif
Mashan al Khudhair
Muhammad bin Shahin
Sultan al Kulaib
Abdullah al Saqur
Mishari al Hassan
Abdul Latif al Thunayan
Sayid Ali Sayid Sulaiman
Ahmad bin Khamis
Yusif al Humaidhi
Ali al Marwan
Sulaiman al Adsani
Salih al Othman
Ali al Abdul Wahhab
Mishari al Hilal
Muhammad al Ahmad al Ghanim
Nusf bin Yusuf
Yusuf al Adsani

The total is now 20 members instead of 14.

The Electorate has been enlarged and numbered 400 instead of 150.

The President is Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, C.I.E., as before.

His Highness has appointed Shaikh Ali al Khalifa as Subah, Director of Security, and various other members of his family have taken up superior posts in the administration.

179. Socotra Island, Indian Ocean.

The master and owner, Mohsin bin Hamad al Mahri, and the "Maallam", Mohsin bin Salim, of the Socotran sailing ship Fateh-ul-Khair reported themselves at the Agency on December 30th as saved from the total wreck of their vessel, off Fao Iraq. They give the

-3-

the number of the crew believed drowned as eleven, and the saved, by various ships, as ninteen. They are being assisted on their way back to Socotra, by Kuwait Arabs and this Agency.

180. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Tempreature 68.F.
Minimum Temprature 48.F.

(b) Rainfall.
Average rainfall during the year 4.00 inches
Fainfall during the period under review NIL.
Total rainfall for the winter season to date. 1.41 inches

Sd/ G.S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution. As usual.

(7)

No. 23 of 1938.

30/45

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December.



---------

168. Royal Navy.

H.M.S. Fowey arrived on the 30th November, and left on 3rd December.

Visit of the Commander-in-Chief in H.M.S. Norfolk.

H.M.S. Norfolk arrived on 1st and left on 3rd.

The customary official calls were paid on the 1st December.

The Commander-in-Chief kindly invited the Ruling family and Notables to visit him and see the ship on the 2nd December, an invitation which was appreciated.

Sheikh Abdulla as-Salim C.I.E., eight other members of the Ruling family and three members of the Council were shown over the ship on the morning of the 2nd.

The Commander-in-Chief also kindly arranged a most striking display of signal efficiency during which His Highness from his own verandah, by merely pressing a key, was able to make a gun fire, smoke come out of the funnels of the ship, etc.

Up to the time the ship left, letters were reaching the Agency asking for opportunities to visit the ship, to play football with the personnel, for the boyscouts to be given instructions, and so on. The visit was evidently very much welcomed by Kuwaitis, many of whom, gaining their livelihood as they do from the sea, feel a special interest in the Royal Navy.

169. Shipping.

S.S. Yambuki Maru of Yamshita Line arrived on 14th and landed 2000 bags of cement and 634 packages general goods.



170. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr. W.E. Houstoun-Boswall, Counsellor in His Majesty's

No. 23 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 1st to 15th December.



---------

168. Royal Navy.

H.M.S. Fowey arrived on the 30th November, and left on 3rd December.

Visit of the Commander-in-Chief in H.M.S. Norfolk.

H.M.S. Norfolk arrived on 1st and left on 3rd.

The customary official calls were paid on the 1st December.

The Commander-in-Chief kindly invited the Ruling Family and Notables to visit him and see the ship on the 2nd December, an invitation which was appreciated.

Sheikh Abdulla as-Salim C.I.E., eight other members of the Ruling family and three members of the Council were shown over the ship on the morning of the 2nd.

The Commander-in-Chief also kindly arranged a most striking display of signal efficiency during which His Highness from his own verandah, by merely pressing a key, was able to make a gun fire, smoke come out of the funnels of the ship, etc.

Up to the time the ship left, letters were reaching the Agency asking for opportunities to visit the ship, to play football with the personnel, for the boyscouts to be given instructions, and so on. The visit was evidently very much welcomed by Kuwaitis, many of whom, gaining their livelihood as they do from the sea, feel a special interest in the Royal Navy.

169. Shipping.

S.S. Yamashi Maru of Yamashita Line arrived on 14th and landed 2000 bags of cement and 636 packages general goods.

170. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr. W.R. Hay-Houston-Boswall, Counsellor in His Majesty's

Embassy, Bagdad arrived here on a private visit on the 9th by R.A.F. seaplane and returned on 11th by road to Basra.

(b) Others.

Herr J. Puttmann and Herr K. Mueller, Germans, agents for Messrs. Fritz Puttmann, Bagdad, sellers of Chemical and Medical Products, arrived here on the 4th and returned the same day to Basra, having visited Kuwait Doctors and Agents for Electrical goods.

Mr. A.S. Hicks, American, representative of "Hydril" Oil well suppliers of New York, arrived from Basra on 10th and returned on 12th.

Mr. E. St.John Hebberd of the Iraq Petroleum Company arrived from Basra on 12th and returned the same day.

171. Saudi Arabia.

(a) H.M. the King Ibn Saud, was reported on the 12th as being about to leave Riyadh for a hunting expedition in North East of Arabia.

(b) Ibrahim al-Muzayyin, former Standard Bearer to the Sheikhs of Kuwait, now in the employ of Ibn Saud arrived, with ten cars on the 11th.

(c) Part of the Bani Khalid Tribe have arrived in the Neutral Zone from Saudi Arabia for the winter grazing.

172. Trucial Coast.

Sheikh Abdul Rahman bin Mohammed of Hira with six followers arrived from Ibn Saud's Court on 8th December, en route for Debai by next down steamer.

173. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 71.F.
Minimum Temperature 49.F.

(b) Rain 1.41 inches.

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,

Distribution As Usual.

Political Agent, Kuwait.

488
(491)

Mr Gibson

I agree [initials] 21/12

Do you think that para 164 + similar paras recording extensions of Kuwait social services deserve a place on the "Council" file, since the lack of such things was responsible partly for the recent upheaval?

[signature] 20/12.

No.22 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November.

160. Royal Navy.

H.M.S.Fowey arrived on the 30th.

161. Shipping.

S.S.Akagistan Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 22nd and landed 1500 bags of cement and 395 packages of general goods.

162. Aviation.

An Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived from Abadan with Mr. and Mrs Taylor, and returned to Abadan the same evening.

163. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil.

(b) Others.

Group Captain R.H.Kersaw, Royal Air Force, Iraq, accompanied by his wife, arrived on the 25th and left on the 27th.

Mr.T.G.Hogg, Financial Adviser to the Iraq Government, and his wife, accompanied by Mr. Dowson of Hills Brothers, Basra, arrived on the 27th and left the same evening.

164. Local Interests.

Education.

(a) The Kuwait Government has decided upon free education in the four existing Government Boys' Schools and in the one Government girls' School.

(b) An Architect has been consulted with regard to the building of the Kuwait State Free Hospital, and is now engaged upon the plan. While here he and a Kuwait Committee of the

No.22 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary for the period from 16th to 30th November.

160. Royal Navy.

H.M.S.Fowey arrived on the 30th.

161. Shipping.

S.S.Akagistan Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 22nd and landed 1500 bags of cement and 395 packages of general goods.

162. Aviation.

An Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived [illegible] th Mr. and Mrs Taylor, and returned to Abadan [illegible]ng.

1[illegible]. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil.

(b) Others.

Group Captain R.H.Kepsaw, Royal Air Force, Iraq, accompanied by his wife, arrived on the 25th and left on the 27th.

Mr.T.G.Hogg, Financial Adviser to the Iraq Government, and his wife, accompanied by Mr. Dowson of Hills Brothers, Basra, arrived on the 27th and left the same evening.

164. Local Interests.

Education.

(a) The Kuwait Government has decided upon free education in the four existing Government Boys' Schools and in the one Government girls' Schools.

(b) An Architect has been consulted with regard to the building of the Kuwait State Free Hospital, and is now engaged upon the plan. While here he and a Kuwait Committee of the

490 (493)

-2-

Council selected a site. The cost is to be about £.6,000.

165. Syria.

The Emir Fawwaz bin Nawwaf bin Nuri ash-Sha'alan, who is executive Sheikh of the Rowalla division of the Anaza, a deputy of the Syrian Chamber, and a brother-in-law of the King and the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Kuwait, from Riyadh, on the 17th, visited the Agency, and left the same day for Iraq enroute for Syria.

166. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The Maria Theresa Dollar.

Reference Para 146 of the Kuwait Intelligence Summary No.20 of 1938.

According to reports by merchants from the Province of Qasim the reply of Ibn Saud, to the petitions made to him, was in no uncertain terms.

It was to the effect that Qasim contributed little or nothing to the State coffers, and that it was time it learnt how to do so. The King's view about the petitioners was most clearly stated.

(b) The Deputy Foreign Minister, Fuad Bey Hamza, K.B.E., arrived on the 16th from Iraq and left for Saudi Arabia on the afternoon of the 17th, having lunched in the Agency before leaving.

167. Meteorological.

(a) Rain and the Arabs.

No rain had fallen up to the 29th of the month and tragedy, for many poor sheep-owning families, was in sight. Fortunately there was a light fall of rain in Kuwait on the 30th, and heavier rain is reported from the North of Kuwait and in the Neutral Zone.

(b) Maximum Temperature. 87.F
Minimum Temperature 50.F

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Coll. 30/45 (2) P.Z. 7789/38.

494

Minute Paper. Department.



Secy E. & O. Dept.

Para. 156 of the diary below may cheer you..

[signature] 28/11

Thanks. No wonder the Bedouin ladies are making a stink about it.

[signature] 29/11

6474B Wt 22530/P 114 10,000 9.37 IOP

492
495

No.21 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th November, 1938.

---

151. Royal Navy.

Nil.

4840.

152. Shipping.

W/7321 to U. Sec. 18/11.

S.S. Kokuku Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived here on the 4th November and discharged 57 packages of general goods.

153. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound plane enroute from Basra to Bahrein landed on the 4th to take up more petrol.

The Westbound plane landed here on the 10th.

(b) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 14th with Messrs.Coxon, Brown and Baylis of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Abadan, and returned on the same evening.

154. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes, Oil concessionaire, left for Bahrein on the 12th by the British India Steam Navigation Company's Slow Mail.

Colonel Hughes, Australian Trade Commissioner, Near East, arrived on the 15th and is staying with the Political Agent, Kuwait.

155. Local Interests.

Legal.

The Ottoman Code (Syrian practice) the Majallat al Akham al Shari'a (i.e. the Pre-Great War unified Turkish Code introduced by the Sultan Abdul Hamid after the rise

No.21 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th November, 1938.

---

151. Royal Navy.

Nil.

152. Shipping.

s.s. Kokkai Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived here on the 4th November and discharged 57 packages of general goods.

153. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The eastbound plane enroute from Basra to Bahrain landed on the 4th to take up more petrol.

The westbound plane landed here on the 10th.

(b) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 14th with Messrs. Foxon, Brown and Reylis of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Abadan, and returned on the same evening.

154. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes, Oil concessionaire, left for Bahrain on the 12th by the British India Steam Navigation Company's slow Mail.

Colonel Hughes, Australian Trade Commissioner, Near East, arrived on the 15th and is staying with the Political Agent, Kuwait.

155. Local Interests.

Legal.

The Ottoman Code (Syrian practice) the Majallat al Ahkam al Shari'a (i.e. the Pre-Great War unified Turkish Code introduced by the Sultan Abdul Hamid after the rise

of the Committee of Union and Progress), has been taken into use in Kuwait.

Previously the law in Kuwait was administered according to the sect of the Judge, and so might vary with a change of appointment, except that applicants could always apply for judgements to be given according to the Code of their own sect, if it was not that of the Judge. Thus in theory one Judge, (in recent years a Maliki), has also administered the Hanbali, Shafi and Hanafi Codes.

This latter system will now only apply to such matters as are most strictly adhered to by the respective Codes, such as marriage and divorce, which are excluded from the Majalla.

The only snag is that one of the articles of the Code lays down that a man who has weak sight may not be appointed as a Judge, and the Kuwait Judge has very weak sight. Some sticklers hold, that this invalidates the i introduction and a famous Nejdi Judge has been invited to come to Kuwait for employment.

156. Commercial.

Japenese goods.

Several merchants selling a particular kind of very cheap Japanese dress material have recently been in difficulties with their Bedouin women customers. It appears that something in the make-up of this artificial material violently attracts goats and cockroaches, who cannot resist a meal of it, whether it is being worn or not.

The ladies concerned have browbeaten the sellers into replacing their dresses, and the Japanese stuff trade has suffered a marked set back in consequence.

157. Maritime.

An India sailing ship, the "Fatah al Khair", with a cargo of rice and charcoal, bound for Basra, from Karachi, was wrecked on Auha Island at the mouth of Kuwait Bay, in a

-3-

of the Committee of Union and Progress), has been taken into use in Kuwait.

Previously the law in Kuwait was administered according to the sect of the Judge, and so might vary with a change of appointment, except that applicants could always apply for judgements to be given according to the Code of their own sect, if it was not that of the Judge. Thus in theory one Judge, (in recent years a Maliki) has also administered the Hanbali, Shafi and Hanafi Codes.

This latter system will now only apply to such matters as are most strictly adhered to by the respective Codes, such as marriage and divorce, which are excluded from the Majalla.

The only snag is that one of the articles of the Code lays down that a man who has weak sight may not be appointed as a Judge, and the Kuwait Judge has very weak sight. Some sticklers hold that this invalidates the introduction and a famous Nejdi Judge has been invited to come to Kuwait for employment.

156. Commercial.

Japanese goods.

Several merchants selling a particular kind of very cheap Japanese dress material have recently been in difficulties with their Bedouin women customers. It appears that something in the make-up of this artificial material violently attracts goats and cockroaches, who cannot resist a meal of it, whether it is being worn or not.

The ladies concerned have browbeaten the sellers into replacing their dresses, and the Japanese stuff trade has suffered a marked set back in consequence.

157. Maritime.

An Indian sailing ship, the "Fateh al Khair", with a cargo of rice and charcoal, bound for Basra, from Karachi, was wrecked on Auha Island at the mouth of Kuwait Bay, in a

high wind in a dark night, on about the 11th. The Indian crew of seven, who saved nothing but the shirts which they were wearing, were eventually rescued by Kuwait fishermen. They are being repatriated by Steamer by the Agency, having been hospitably treated by a member of the Kuwait Council Sayed Ali during their stay.

158. Palestine.

Reactions to the pronouncemnet of His Majesty's Government were good.

159. Meteorological.

Maximum Temperature 87.F.

Minimum Temperature 50.F.

Sd.G.S.de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

-3-

high wind in a dark night, on about the 11th. The Indian crew of seven, who saved nothing but the shirts which they were wearing, were eventually rescued by Kuwait fishermen. They are being repatriated by steamer by the Agency, having been hospitably treated by a member of the Kuwait Council Sayed Ali during their stay.

158. <u>Palestine</u>.

Reactions to the pronouncement of His Majesty's Government were good.

159. <u>Meteorological</u>.

Maximum Temperature 87.F.

Minimum Temperature 80.F.

Sd.G.S.de Gaury.

Captain,

Distribution As Usual. Political Agent, Kuwait.

Secret. No. 20 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th to 31st October 1938.

---

142. Royal Navy.

G.L.S. "Nearchus" arrived on 21st on a tour of inspection of buoys and lights and sailed on 22nd.

143. Shipping.

Nil.

144. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Exercise with Kuwait forces.

Wing Commander T.S. Ivens commanding the Armoured car Company arrived from Habbaniya on 23rd and left on 28th.

No.4 Section Armoured cars from Shaiba arrived in Kuwait on 24th and left on 28th.

(i) Individual instruction was given to the personnel of the Shaikh motorized forces, as requested by him.

(ii) On the 26th an exercise in co-operation was carried out near Kuwait, with the Shaikh's forces, under Command of Salah bin Othman ar-Rashid.

Aircraft of No. 84 Squadron Shaiba, arrived for the operation which was successful, and attracted a large number of Kuwaiti spectators as well as the Ruling family and all members of the Council.

(iii) As far as is known this is the first exercise of military co-operation carried out in peace time in Kuwait, although British Forces have been stationed in Kuwait and co-operated in active defence with the local forces in the past, i.e. during Ikhwan attacks on Kuwait (1793-95 Royal Navy and Sepoys, 1921 and 1928-30, Royal Navy and R.A.F.).

(b) Imperial Airways.

Eastbound service landed here on 31st for refueling only.



(c)/

Secret. No. 20 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th to 31st October 1938.

142. Royal Navy.

G.L.S. "Mearchus" arrived on 21st on a tour of inspection of buoys and lights and sailed on 22nd.

143. Shipping.

Nil.

144. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Exercise with Kuwait forces.

Wing Commander T.S. Ivens commanding the Armoured car Company arrived from Habbaniya on 23rd and left on 28th. No.4 Section Armoured cars from Shaiba arrived in Kuwait on 24th and left on 28th.

(i) Individual instruction was given to the personnel of the Shaikh motorised forces, as requested by him.

(ii) On the 26th an exercise in co-operation was carried out near Kuwait, with the Shaikh's forces, under Command of Salih bin Othman ar-Rashid.

Aircraft of No. 84 Squadron Shaiba, arrived for the operation which was successful, and attracted a large number of Kuwaiti spectators as well as the Ruling family and all members of the Council.

(iii) As far as is known this is the first exercise of military co-operation carried out in peace time in Kuwait, although British Forces have been stationed in Kuwait and co-operated in active defence with the local forces in the past, i.e. during Ikhwan attacks on Kuwait (1793-98 Royal Navy and Sepoys, 1921 and 1928-30, Royal Navy and R.A.F.).

(b) Imperial Airways.

Eastbound service landed here on 31st for refuelling only.

(c) Miscellaneous.

An aeroplane of the A.I.O.C. arrived on 29th, with Mr. J.M. Wilson, an architect as passenger and returned to Abadan on 30th.

145. Movements.

(a) Official.

(1) The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and his staff left for Basra en route for Bushire on 20th.

(2) Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 20th and returned on 21st.

(3) Mr. R.F.G. Sarell, H.M. Consul, Shiraz accompanied by Miss Sarell arrived here from Basra on 18th and stayed in the Agency. They returned to Basra on 19th.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes, Oil Concessionaire, arrived here on 17th from Basra.

Major Harry C. Davis, an American Director of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived here on 21st and left on November 1st.

Mr. F.M. Potter, an American citizen, General Secretary of the American Mission to Arabia, arrived from Basra on 29th and left on 31st.

146. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Reaction to New Currency Regulation.

Ibn Saud has forbidden the use of the Maria Theresa Dollar, (also known as the Riyal Fransi), in favour of the Saudi Riyal.

In consequence the value of the Maria Theresa Dollar in North East Arabia, and presumably elsewhere in Saudi Arabia is falling rapidly. Many merchants have been caught with large sums of money in these Dollars; for example a large party of the Agail, who annually come here to purchase thousands of camels from Nejd and Kuwait for export to Egypt, had only just transferred their money here from

(c) Miscellaneous.

An aeroplane of the A.I.O.C. arrived on 29th, with Mr. I.M. Wilson, an architect as passenger and returned to Abadan on 30th.

145. Movements.

(a) Official.

(1) The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf and his staff left for Basra en route for Bushire on 20th.

(2) Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 20th and returned on 21st.

(3) Mr. R.E.G. Sarell, H.M. Consul, Shiraz accompanied by Miss Sarell arrived here from Basra on 18th and stayed in the Agency. They returned to Basra on 19th.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes, Oil Concessionaire, arrived here on 17th from Basra.

Major Harry C. Davis, an American Director of the Kuwait Oil Company arrived here on 21st and left on November 1st.

Mr. F.M. Potter, an American citizen, General Secretary of the American Mission to Arabia, arrived from Basra on 29th and left on 31st.

146. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Reaction to New Currency Regulation.

Ibn Saud has forbidden the use of the Maria Theresa Dollar, (also known as the Riyal Fransi), in favour of the Saudi Riyal.

In consequence the value of the Maria Theresa Dollar in North East Arabia, and presumably elsewhere in Saudi Arabia is falling rapidly. Many merchants have been caught with large sums of money in these Dollars; for example a large party of the Ageil, who annually come here to purchase thousands of camels from Nejd and Kuwait for export to Egypt, had only just transferred their money here from

from Damascus for changing into Dollars. They have telegraphed unavailingly, their protests to the King.

Leading merchants of al Qasim towns have similarly telegraphed, and, according to travellers some led by a Rushoudi and Ibn Mushaiqar of Buraida, are on their way to Riyadh with petitions.

Kuwait merchants, who have stocks of Dollars, or have been purchasing at the town rates now prevailing, are sending cases of them to India, en route for various destinations, such as the Yemen, where the Maria Theresa Dollar is still in use.

(b) His Majesty the King.

The Shaikh of Kuwait has received a congratulatory telegram from Ibn Saud upon the finding of oil in the second well at Burgen.

147. Commercial.

(a) German Interests.

H.F. Reisinger, Agent for Johann Schlinz Nfg., Bremen arrived on 28th to go into further business possibilities.

(b) Lambskins.

The Agent of the Hudson Bay Company has arrived to buy black lambskins which have fallen greatly in price this year; the finest quality, equivalent to the Bokhari, being now Rs. 4/- only.

This fall is apparently due partly to the World situation, and partly to a change in European fashion.

(c) Pearls.

The price of pearls after this season, which ended a little early owing to Ramadhan, is as low as hitherto, with no sign of a rise.

From now onwards Ramadhan will effect the diving season, and the crop will become less, as there is no diving during fast; the diving season thus, when Ramadhan falls in Mid-Summer, being divided into two periods.

(d) American Interests.

Dodge has now opened an Agency, and several Plymouth cars have been sold.

from Damascus for changing into Dollars. They have telegraphed unavailingly, their protests to the King.

Leading merchants of al Qasim towns have similarly telegraphed, and, according to travellers some led by a Rushoudi and Ibn Mushaiqar of Buraida, are on their way to Riyadh with petitions.

Kuwait merchants, who have stocks of Dollars, or have been purchasing at the town rates now prevailing, are sending cases of them to India, en route for various destinations, such as the Yemen, where the Maria Theresa Dollar is still in use.

(b) His Majesty the King.

The Shaikh of Kuwait has received a congratulatory telegram from Ibn Saud upon the finding of oil in the second well at Burgan.

147. Commercial.

(a) German Interests.

H.F. Reisinger, Agent for Johann Sohlins Mfg., Bremen arrived on 28th to go into further business possibilities.

(b) Lambskins.

The Agent of the Hudson Bay Company has arrived to buy black lambskins which have fallen greatly in price this year; the finest quality, equivalent to the Bokhari, being now Rs. 4/- only.

This fall is apparently due partly to the World situation, and partly to a change in European fashion.

(c) Pearls.

The price of pearls after this season, which ended a little early owing to Ramadhan, is as low as hitherto, with no sign of a rise.

From now onwards Ramadhan will effect the diving season, and the crop will become less, as there is no diving during fast; the diving season thus, when Ramadhan falls in Mid-Summer, being divided into two periods.

(d) American Interests.

Dodge has now opened an Agency, and several Plymouth cars have been sold.

148. NOMADS.

Camps at Jahara and Subahiyia.

The Summer camps on permanent wells have now all broken up for the winter migration, after restocking in Kuwait.

The Qahtan from the Wadi Dawasir in South West Nejd, and the Subaih from Central Nejd was the first to move and have already recrossed the frontier.

149. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) The Council.

Yusif Murzook, a notorious hothead and a member of the Kuwait Council has been expelled from it.

He heard a rumour that the Council were about to ask the Sheikh to change his representative with the Oil Company, one Abdulla Mulla, son of the late State's Secretary of the Sheikh, Mulla Saleh, and on this flared up, announced that he would protect the representative at all costs, and with arms, and publicly cursed the Council.

The Council denied that they had any such intention at the present time: although it is probably true that they had reviewed its possibility.

Yusuf Murzook, who is feeling a financial pinch, since he has been prevented from going to India for certain reasons for sometime past, is alleged to have accepted a large "loan" which came to him from Abdulla Mulla and this rumpus, which has now died down, looks as if it may have been engineered. It took place during the visit of an American Director of the Kuwait Oil Company.

A vacancy thus occurs on the Council, on which an election will in due course be held.

(b) Antiquities.

Reference paragraph No. 124 of Summary No. 17 of 1938, experts in England have now seen the transcription and photographs of the stone unearthed on Falaicha Island.

It is finally read as follows:-

SOTRIES

SOTELES
an Athenian
and OISTRA
to ZEUS Saviour,
Poseidon,
Artemis,
the Saviours

Oistra means gadfly, the kind of name given to a wife or a slave, and it is presumed denotes his or her characteristics.

It is assumed, that they had been saved from shipwreck.

The expert say that the form of lettering used by this Athenian in trouble shows that the inscription was made after 404 B.C., and earlier than the 1st Century B.C.

150. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 97.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 58.F |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury, Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution as Usual

No. 19 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 1st to 15th October 1938.



135. Royal Navy.

Nil

136. Shipping.

S.S. Chile Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 7th and landed 1500 bags of cement and 185 packages of general goods.

137. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here on the 7th and left on the same day.

A Royal Air Force Seaplane, with the son of the Sheikh of Bahrain on board, landed on the 12th and left in within few minutes.

(c) Miscellaneous.

Nil.

138. Movements.

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived with staff on the 4th by the B.I.S.N. Company's Slow Mail.

The Belgian Minister in Tehran visited Kuwait on the 11th returning to Iraq on the 12th. He stayed with the Political Agent.

139. Oil Interests.

On the 13th of October Oil was struck in No. 2 well at Burgan, 35 miles South of Kuwait town, of a similar quality, and at a similar depth (3750 feet), to that found

last/

No. 19 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 1st to 15th October 1938.

135. Royal Navy.

Nil.

136. Shipping.

S.S. Chile Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 7th and landed 1500 bags of cement and 185 packages of general goods.

137. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here on the 7th and left on the same day.

A Royal Air Force Seaplane, with the son of the Sheikh of Bahrain on board, landed on the 12th and left in within few minutes.

(c) Miscellaneous.

Nil.

138. Movements.

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived with staff on the 4th by the B.I.S.N. Company's Slow Mail.

The Belgian Minister in Tehran visited Kuwait on the 11th returning to Iraq on the 12th. He stayed with the Political Agent.

139. Oil Interests.

On the 15th of October Oil was struck in No. 2 well at Burgan, 35 miles South of Kuwait town, of a similar quality, and at a similar depth (3750 feet), to that found

last/

last spring in No. 1 well in the same neighbourhood. Pressure is also likely to be about the same, and prospects for Oil development in Kuwait are now definitely good.

140. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The King is at BANBAN, for hunting in the district, until RAMADHAN begins (about October 25th), when he plans to return to Riyadh.

(b) After Ramadhan he expects to be again in North East Nejd, and not far from the Kuwait frontier.

(b) Sheikh Yusif Yassin, head of the Royal Secretariate and the Political Department of the Diwan, is at Qarya al Ilya, having come there to meet members of his family arriving from Syria via Kuwait.

141. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 98 F.

Minimum Temperature 59 F.

(b) Average Relative Humidity.

| 1938. | Magwa. | Shuaikh. |
|---|---|---|
| June | 19% | 44% |
| July | 25% | 41% |
| August | 27% | 44% |
| September | 25% | 43% |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

- 2 -

Last spring in No. 1 well in the same neighbourhood. Pressure is also likely to be about the same, and prospects for Oil development in Kuwait are now definitely good.

140. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The King is at BANBAN, for hunting in the district, until RAMADHAN begins (about October 25th), when he plans to return to Riyadh.

(b) After Ramadhan he expects to be again in North East Nejd, and not far from the Kuwait frontier.

(b) Shaikh Yusuf Yassin, head of the Royal Secretariate and the Political Department of the Diwan, is at Qarya al Ulya, having come there to meet members of his family arriving from Syria via Kuwait.

141. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 98 F.
Minimum Temperature 59 F.

(b) Average Relative Humidity.

| 1938. | Magwa. | Shuaikh. |
|---|---|---|
| June | 19% | 44% |
| July | 25% | 41% |
| August | 27% | 44% |
| September | 25% | 45% |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

No.18 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 16th to 30th September.



128. Royal Navy.

Nil.

129. Shipping.

Nil.

130. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 16th, 25th and 30th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The A.I.O.C. aeroplane arrived on the 17th September with Messrs. H.P. Keeley and A.J. Anderson and left for Abadan same day.

131. Movements.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 26th to meet the Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident Persian Gulf and returned to Kuwait on the 28th.

132. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The King sent to his Kuwait Trade Agent for 5000 tins of petrol which were despatched to Riyadh via Jaryat al Ilya.

(b) Ibn Saud has sent a private invitation to the Ruler to visit him "in the new palace" at Riyadh.

The Ruler has replied that if he can come he would like to do so, leaving here about the last week in Ramadhan.

His Highness was invited last year, and the year before, for the pilgrimage, but in the end did not go.

(c) Hamza Ghauth, of Medina, passed through Kuwait on his way to Baghdad, where he has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary from Saudi Arabia.



133/

No.18 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 16th to 30th September.

128. Royal Navy.

Nil.

129. Shipping.

Nil.

130. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 16th, 23rd and 30th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The A.I.O.C. aeroplane arrived on the 17th September with Messrs. H.P. Keeley and A.T. Anderson and left for Abadan same day.

131. Movements.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 26th to meet the Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident Persian Gulf and returned to Kuwait on the 28th.

132. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The King sent to His Kuwait Trade Agent for 5000 tins of petrol which were despatched to Riyadh via Jaryat al Ilya.

(b) Ibn Saud has sent a private invitation to the Ruler to visit him "in the new palace" at Riyadh.

The Ruler has replied that if he can come, he would like to do so, leaving here about the last week in Ramadhan.

His Highness was invited last year, and the year before, for the pilgrimage, but in the end did not go.

(c) Hamza Ghauth, of Medina, passed through Kuwait on his way to Baghdad, where he has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary from Saudi Arabia.

133/

133. Iraq.

Gulf Steamer Service.

Some Kuwait merchants have been asked, and have agreed, to take up shares in the Company which Sayid Hamid al Naqib of Basra is hoping to promote, with financial backing from the Iraqi Government, to run a service of three steamers to compete with the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers, whose freight charges are high, for transport of cargoes to and from India and the Gulf Ports.

134. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 113 F. |
| Minimum Temperature | 70 F. |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution: As usual.

- 2 -

133. Iraq.

Gulf Steamer Service.

Some Kuwait merchants have been asked, and have agreed, to take up shares in the Company which Sayid Hamid al Majid of Basra is hoping to promote, with financial backing from the Iraqi Government, to run a service of three steamers to compete with the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamers, whose freight charges are high, for transport of cargoes to and from India and the Gulf Ports.

134. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 115 F. |
| Minimum Temperature | 70 F. |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution: As usual.

504
(507)

*Notes.*

**Minute Paper.**

Register No.
P.Z. 6639/38

Pa

SECRET.
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

*Dated* 193 .
*Rec.*

| To | Date. | Initials. | SUBJECT. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Under Secretary ..... | 29.9 | | Koweit |
| Secretary of State ... | | | |
| Committee ........... | 3.10. | | Intelligence Summary: 1st half of Septr. |
| Under Secretary ..... | | | |
| Secretary of State.... | | | |

Copy of to

FOR INFORMATION.

Para. 124 is of archaeological interest.

JMC. 5/x

5/10 6/10

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
6 - OCT 1938

6089 Wt. 10760/P 42 1000 5.37 IOP

No.17 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary from 1st September to 15th September.

---



120. Royal Navy.

Nil.

121. Shipping.

S.S.Ryoyo Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived here from Japan on the 6th and landed 1000 paper bags of cement, 165 cases of tea and 92 packages of general goods.

S.S.Mantai Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived here from Japan and landed 94 packages general goods.

122. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 2nd, 4th 9th, 11th and 15th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here with Squadron Leader Stainforth on the 5th and left for Shaiba the same day.

123. Movements.

Sheikh Abdulla Salim returned from Basra on the 4th.

Two sons of the late Sheikh Khazaal arrived from Basra on the 15th. The object of their visit was in connection with the family property in Kuwait.

124. Falaicha Island.

A Greek inscription has come to light on Falaicha Island, in the ruins of a small building of dressed stone unearthed by Sheikh Salim al Hamoud as Subah, seven hundred yards South-East of Zor village. It is a recording of gratitude by one Soteles, an Athenian, and his slave to

No.17 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary from 1st September to 15th September.

180. Royal Navy.

Nil.

181. Shipping.

S.S.Hyogo Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived here from Japan on the 5th and landed 1000 paper bags of cement, 150 cases of tea and 92 packages of general goods.

S.S.Heriei Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived here from Japan and landed 94 packages general goods.

182. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 2nd, 4th 9th, 11th and 15th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here with Squadron Leader Stainforth on the 8th and left for Shaiba the same day.

183. Movements.

Sheikh Abdulla Salim returned from Basra on the 4th.

Two sons of the late Sheikh Khazaal arrived from Basra on the 15th. The object of their visit was in connection with the family property in Kuwait.

184. Failaka Island.

A Greek inscription has come to light on Failaka Island, in the ruins of a small building of dressed stone unearthed by Sheikh Salim al Hamad as Sabah, seven hundred yards South-East of Zor village. It is a recording of gratitude by one Soteles, an Athenian, and his slaves to

Poseidon and Artemis for saving them from shipwreck. Probable date is the 2nd century B.C.

(It is interesting that the present shrine on Falaicha is to Khidhr Elias, and that it is still the custom for Arabs saved from shipwreck to make a sacrifice at Khidhr and for women desiring fertility to visit there in the Spring.

125. The Date Gardens of the Ruling family of Kuwait in Iraq held by them in October 1914.

After a brief pause the date gardens case is again under way.

(a) The harvest of the Bashiya, and part of the Fiddaghiya estates, have been laid hands upon by the Zuhair lawyer,

(b) A submission of Appeal against the Basra Courts decision in the Fiddaghiya case has been made by the Ruling family, and it may therefore be anticipated that it will be duly dealt with in the Bagdad Appeal Court.

126. Saudi Arabia.

Sheikh Naif bin Humaid of the Ataiba passed through Kuwait returning to Iraq, where he has, until this recent visit to Ibn Saud in Riyadh, remained in exile since the end of the Ikhwan revolt.

It is rumoured that the Ataiba in Iraq may return with him to Saudi Arabia soon. All the other contingents of tribesman of Nejd which were in exile have already done so.

127. Meteorological.

Humidity has been notably high and rain fell for a few minutes in heavy drops on the night of 2nd/3rd of September, a most unusual occurrence so early in the year.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 115.F |
| Minimum Temperature. | 81.F |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Koweit





No. 16 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 16th August to 31st August.

---

114. Royal Navy.

Nil.

Mr Gibson - To see

Copy to F.O. ... 15 SEP 1938

115. Shipping.

The G.L.S.Nearchus arrived here on the 27th on a tour of inspection of the buoys, and left on the 30th.

116. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Westbound plane landed here on the 16th.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 21st and 28th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here on the 16th and left the same day.

Reference Summary No.15 para 109 (b). The Field Wireless Post was removed and the wireless operator also left by Royal Air Force Aircraft on the 30th.

117. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 17th and returned on the 21st.

(b) Others.

Sheikh Abdulla as Salim, President of the Majlis, left for Basra on the 18th in connection with the administration of the Subah family's date gardens, and returned on the 25th. He again left for Fao on the 31st in the same connection.

Ahmad Idlibi, Labanese journalist arrived from Basra on the 25th and returned to Basra on the 27th. He stayed with Sheikh Abdulla al-Jabir in Kuwait.



118. Local Politics.

His Highness entertained at a banquet the members of

Kuwait

No. 16 of 1938.

Intelligence Summary from 16th August to 31st August.

114. Royal Navy.

Nil.



115. Shipping.

The G.L.S.Nearchus arrived here on the 27th on a tour of inspection of the buoys, and left on the 30th.

116. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Westbound plane landed here on the 18th.

The Eastbound planes landed here on the 21st and 28th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Royal Air Force Aircraft arrived here on the 16th and left the same day.

Reference Summary No.15 para 109 (b). The Field Wireless Post was removed and the wireless operator also left by Royal Air Force Aircraft on the 30th.

117. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra on the 17th and returned on the 21st.

(b) Others.

Sheikh Abdulla as Salim, President of the Majlis, left for Basra on the 18th in connection with the administration of the Subah family's date gardens, and returned on the 25th. He again left for Fao on the 31st in the same connection.

Ahmad Idlibi, Lebanese journalist arrived from Basra on the 25th and returned to Basra on the 27th. He stayed with Sheikh Abdulla al-Jabir in Kuwait.

118. Local Politics.

His Highness entertained at a banquet the members of

of his newly formed council on the 23rd.

The members of the council entertained the Political Agent at dinner on the 24th.

His Highness the Sheikh of Kuwait attended for the first time a session of the Council on the morning of the 22nd and made a short address. Subsequently he visited the foundations for the new Council Chamber, which is to be built in the main Square.

119. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 118.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 81.F |

Sd. G.S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As usual.

- 2 -

of his newly formed council on the 23rd.

The members of the council entertained the Political Agent at dinner on the 24th.

His Highness the Shaikh of Kuwait attended for the first time a session of the Council on the morning of the 22nd and made a short address. Subsequently he visited the foundations for the new Council Chamber, which is to be built in the main Square.

119. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 118.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 81.F |

Sd. G.S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As usual.

No. 15 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st August to 15th August, 1938.



107. Royal Navy.

Nil.

108. Shipping.

S.S."Yamobuki Mari" of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 5th and landed 75 packages of general cargo.

S.S. "Kirrie Moor" chartered by the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 13th and landed 1,000 paper bags of cement and 167 packages of general goods.

109. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound service, carrying through mails only, landed here on the 5th and 7th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Field Wireless Post was temporarily placed at the Kuwait Agency from the 13th.

110. Local Politics.

Reference para 90 of the Intelligence Summary No. 12 of 1938, describing the formation of a Council.

The Council soon found that the Chief Secretary of His Highness, Mulla Saleh, who had for some forty years been in effect the Government of Kuwait, was still endeavouring to undermine their influence and solidarity.

An attempt by him to organize the Persians (of whom there are about 20,000), and some others, into an opposition made the Council determined to bring matters to head by demanding his dismissal, and after sharp exchange of views, with the Sheikh, followed by a period of anxiety, when neither side would give way, and feeling ran very high, the Sheikh at last decided to send him away on "indefinite leave". His young Syrian Private Secretary, Izzet Jaafar, had meanwhile wisely

left/

No. 15 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st August to 15th August, 1938.

FILE COPY

107. Royal Navy.

Nil.

108. Shipping.

S.S. "Yamabuki Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 5th and landed 75 packages of general cargo.

S.S. "Kirrie Maru" chartered by the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 13th and landed 1,000 paper bags of cement and 167 packages of general goods.

109. Aviation.

(a) Imperial Airways.

The Eastbound service, carrying through mails only, landed here on the 5th and 7th.

(b) Royal Air Force.

A Field Wireless Post was temporarily placed at the Kuwait Agency from the 13th.

110. Local Politics.

Reference para 90 of the Intelligence Summary No. 12 of 1938, describing the formation of a Council.

The Council soon found that the Chief Secretary of His Highness, Mulla Saleh, who had for some forty years been in effect the Government of Kuwait, was still endeavouring to undermine their influence and solidarity.

An attempt by him to organise the Persians (of whom there are about 20,000), and some others, into an opposition made the Council determined to bring matters to head by demanding his dismissal, and after sharp exchange of views, with the Sheikh, followed by a period of anxiety, when neither side would give way, and feeling ran very high, the Sheikh at last decided to send him away on "indefinite leave". His young Syrian Private Secretary, Izzat Jaafar, had meanwhile wisely

left/

510
(513)



left for Egypt.

Threats of disturbance have now died away, and the Council is busy about the administrative reforms, which were overdue.

Note:- The "Molla system" of administration, whereby independent, or semi independent but illiterate Sheikhs, placed their trust and their administration, in the hands of one literate man, usually a foreigner, was in the past common. Kuwait must be one of the last places, among those in fairly close contact with the outside world, to abandon the system.

The late Mullah was Persian by origin who had been the State Secretary since the days of Sheikh Mubarak, to whom it is believed he was presented by Sheikh Khazaal of Mohammerah.

At present the Mulla is at Zubair in 'Iraq, near Basra, but it is understood that he may be permitted to continue his leave at Zor on Falaicha Island in Kuwait Bay.

111. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait returned from Bushire by the B.I.S.N.Co's Slow Mail on the 2nd.

(b) Others.

Sheikh Mohammed Idnal-Rawwaf, Charge d'Affaires Saudi Arab Legation, Baghdad and As'ad al-Fakyh, also of the Legation, arrived from 'Iraq on the 15th, enroute Riyadh, having been sent for by the King.

112. Saudi Arabia & 'Iraq.

There is the usual crop of rumours, now that the summer is halfway through that, once it is ended, and the Arabs able to move more easily, the tribesmen of Nejd will make for Palestine to fight with their fellow Muslims against the Jews.

- 2 -

left for Egypt.

Threats of disturbance have now died away, and the Council is busy about the administrative reforms, which were overdue.

Note:- The "Mulla system" of administration, whereby independent, or semi independent but illiterate Sheikhs, placed their trust and their administration, in the hands of one literate man, usually a foreigner, was in the past common. Kuwait must be one of the last places, among those in fairly close contact with the outside world, to abandon the system.

The late Mullah was Persian by origin who had been the State Secretary since the days of Sheikh Mubarak, to whom it is believed he was presented by Sheikh Khazaal of Mohammerah.

At present the Mulla is at Zubair in 'Iraq, near Basra, but it is understood that he may be permitted to continue his leave at Zor on Failaicha Island in Kuwait Bay.

111. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait returned from Bushire by the B.I.S.N.Co's Slow Mail on the 2nd.

(b) Others.

Sheikh Mohammed Idnal-Rawwaf, Charge d'Affaires Saudi Arab Legation, Baghdad and As'ad el-Faqyh, also of the Legation, arrived from 'Iraq on the 15th, enroute Riyadh, having been sent for by the King.

112. Saudi Arabia & 'Iraq.

There is the usual crop of rumours, now that the summer is halfway through that, once it is ended, and the Arabs able to move more easily, the tribesmen of Nejd will make for Palestine to fight with their fellow Muslims against the Jews.

- 3 -

113. Meteorological.

Maximum Temperature 117.F

Minumum Temperature 81.F

Captain,

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As usual.

512
(515)

Mr Gibson
To see
31/8

30/8

① Mr Peel - To see paras 102 & 103
Ad 17/8

(2) Mr Crombie - To see para 103
Thanks. I'd like to see any further references to this 27/8

(3) Registry - Extract of paras 102 & 103 for files & P.A.

17/8

Para 103 already extracted
27/8

No.14 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th July to 31st July, 1938.

---

Mp 5254
Col 30/45

99. Royal Navy.

Nil.

100. Shipping.

Nil.

F.O.


101. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 27th and 31st.

102. Local Interests.

The Kuwait Council has been active during July and undertaken among other things, the following:-

(a) A "clean up" in the Passport and Customs control including changes in the personnel, and the building of a new Customs Post at the Riyadh gate, where all traffic including that from Basra will later be ordered to enter.

(b) Given permission for Radios to work in the Coffee shops in the main square from after the "Ashur Prayers until two hours after sunset.

(c) Repairing and garrisoning of the Naif fort.

(d) Passing of plans for the new Council Chamber and offices to be built in the Main square.



(e) Appointment of new Magistrates and the functioning of the Council as an Appeal Court, pending any other arrangements; no Appeal Court having existed for many years i.e. since the Sheikh ceased to act as such.

(f) A review of financial resources.

103. Afghan.

Reference Para 81 of Intelligence Summary No.9 of 1937

No.14 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th July to 31st July, 1938.

99. Royal Navy.

Nil.

100. Shipping.

Nil.

101. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 27th and 31st.

102. Local Interests.

The Kuwait Council has been active during July and undertaken among other things, the following:-

(a) A "clean up" in the Passport and Customs control including changes in the personnel, and the building of a new Customs Post at the Riyadh gate, where all traffic including that from Basra will later be ordered to enter.

(b) Given permission for Radios to work in the Coffee shops in the main square from after the "Asur Prayers until two hours after sunset.

(c) Repairing and garrisoning of the Naif fort.

(d) Passing of plans for the new Council Chamber and offices to be built in the Main square.

(e) Appointment of new Registrars and the functioning of the Council as an Appeal Court, pending any other arrangements; no Appeal Court having existed for many years i.e. since the Shaikh ceased to act as such.

(f) A review of financial resources.

103. [illegible].

Reference Para 81 of Intelligence Summary No.9 of 1938.

-2-

Local opinion has it that the Shami Pir, recently active in Afghanistan, is the same as Sayid Muhammad who accompanied Ghalib al Afghani here (Photographs compared do show some resemblance).

Ghalib al Afghani wrote to a Kuwaiti this month giving his address as Le Bel Air, Les Avants - Vaud, Switzerland.

104. Saudi Arabia.

Reference Para 75 (d) of Summary No. 10 of 1938.

The movement of the Bedouins was in the end, left too late in the year, and the Ruler has therefore permitted Ibn Mansour, the Saudi Arabian Tax Gatherer, to enter Kuwait territory and move from camp to camp to collect the Zakka tax from Saudi tribesmen. Ibn Mansour is accompanied by Kuwaiti representative of the Sheikh.

105. Syria.

The Emir Naif bin Nowwaf Ash Shalan of the Ruwalla Anaza passed through on his way to Riyadh whence he returned at the end of the month, the cars that brought him taking back on the 2nd August the French doctor Charles Marie Condand Joseph, sent for by the King from Syria.

106. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 115.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 82.F |

Sd. G.S.de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

-2-

Local opinion has it that the Shami Pir, recently active in Afghanistan, is the same as Sayid Muhammad who accompanied Ghalib al Afghani here (Photographs compared do show some resemblance).

Ghalib al Afghani wrote to a Kuwaiti this month giving his address as Le Bel Air, Les Avants - Vaud, Switzerland.

104. Saudi Arabia.

Reference Para 75 (d) of Summary No. 10 of 1938.

The movement of the Bedouins was in the end, left too late in the year, and the Ruler has therefore permitted Ibn Mansour, the Saudi Arabian Tax Gatherer, to enter Kuwait territory and move from camp to camp to collect the Zakka tax from Saudi tribesmen. Ibn Mansour is accompanied by Kuwaiti representative of the Sheikh.

105. Syria.

The Emir Naif bin Nowwaf Ash Shalan of the Ruwalla Aneza passed through on his way to Riyadh whence he returned at the end of the month, the cars that brought him taking back on the 2nd August the French doctor Charles Marie Condand Joseph, sent for by the King from Syria.

106. Meteorological.

Maximum Temperature 115.F

Minimum Temperature 82.F

Sd. G.S.de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

No. 13 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th July, 1938.

---

93. Royal Navy.

H.M.S. "Shoreham" arrived on 1st July and left on the 3rd July. Calls were exchanged in the usual manner.

94. Royal Air Force.

A BOMBER-TRANSPORT Aircraft of the R.A.F., enroute from Habbaniya to Shaiba landed with petrol nearly exhausted, about 1 A.M. on the morning of 7th of July, on the shore ten miles South of Kuwait town, without any damage. Informed by a passing Arab, the Political Agent visited the Aircraft, and arranged for petrol and ice to be sent out. The Aircraft left the same morning accompanied by the searching aircraft which had located it.

95. Movements.

(a) Official.

Lt-Colonel J.J. Rooney, Residency Surgeon Bushire, arrived on the 5th by the B.I.S.N. Co's Slow Mail and left for Bushire on the 9th.

Captain G. S. de Gaury, left for Basra enroute Bushire on the 13th.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes, oil concessionaire, left for Baghdad enroute United Kingdom on the 2nd.

96. Local Interests.

Death of a millionaire.

Sheikh Hilal al Mutairi, aged about eighty, died on the 11th July.

He started life as a Bedouin and had been obliged as a boy, to adopt the calling of a seller of a date stones in Kuwait.



Graduating

Graduating in the ranks of the pearl divers he at last became an owner of many boats; until the first year of the World Financial crisis, when with the shrewdness he had shown all his life, he "got out", and bought property in Bombay, Bahrain, Basra etc..

His estate is estimated to be worth over 120 lakhs. His eldest son, aged about 25, is Mishari, now sick in the Lebanon.

97. Saudi Arabia.

Iraq frontier agreement.

Several Bedouins report that what are probably intended as Boundary Pillars have been erected not far from the junction of the Kuwait-Saudi-Iraq borders i.e. at Shuggiya (see R.A.F. map 1,500,00) in Kuwait territory.

The Political Agent has not been able to visit the place yet. There seems little doubt that these are pillars put up during the recent Saudi-Iraq meeting on the frontier.

In this connection, the placing of any boundary marks, no reference was made to this Agency, or as far as is known to any other British Authority.

98. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 118.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 81.F |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As usual.

Please add Bombay & AOI to circulation list.



F.O.
Bombay

Extract para. 90 to relevant file
4622

No. 12 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 16th to 30th June, 1938.

---

88. Royal Navy.

H.M.S. Deptford arrived on the 21st and left on the 24th. The calls were exchanged in the usual manner.

89. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, left for Basra on the 16th in a R.A.F. Aircraft to meet the Hon'ble the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, returning to Kuwait on the 20th.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes left for Basra enroute Bahrain on the 16th and returned on the 29th.

The Bishop of Jerusalem accompanied by the Reverend Mr.Bowyer arrived from Bahrain in a Royal Air Force Flying Boat on the 20th, and left for Basra on the 21st.

90. Local Interests.

Politics.

Kuwait has been suffering from an attack of infantile democracy. Better communications, the Radio, and the advent of an Oil Company are the causes.

Faced with a request from most of the leading notables of Kuwait for the reestablishment of an Advisory Council, following on advice to do so from British official quarters, His Highness has agreed to permit a Council to advise him. A Council was a condition made by the notables, for his selection to the Sheikhdoms in 1921 but has been in abeyance ever since.

The President of the Council, elected by the Council, is Sheikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, C.I.E.,.

The fourteen members elected by the heads of 150 families

No. 12 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 16th to 30th June 1938.

88. Royal Navy.

H.M.S. Deptford arrived on the 21st and left on the 24th. The calls were exchanged in the usual manner.

89. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, left for Basra on the 16th in a R.A.F. Aircraft to meet the Hon'ble the Political Resident, Persian Gulf, returning to Kuwait on the 20th.

(b) Others.

Major Frank Holmes left for Basra enroute Bahrain on the 16th and returned on the 22nd.

The Bishop of Jerusalem accompanied by the Reverend Mr.Bowyer arrived from Bahrain in a Royal Air Force Flying Boat on the 20th, and left for Basra on the 21st.

90. Local Interests.

Politics.

Kuwait has been suffering from an attack of infantile democracy. Better communications, the Radio, and the advent of an Oil Company are the causes.

Faced with a request from most of the leading notables of Kuwait for the reestablishment of an Advisory Council, following on advice to do so from British official quarters, His Highness has agreed to permit a Council to advise him. A Council was a condition made by the notables, for his selection to the Sheikhdome in 1921 but has been in abeyance ever since.

The President of the Council, elected by the Council, is Sheikh Abdulla as Salim as Subah, C.I.E.,.

The fourteen members elected by the heads of 150 families

families on the 29th June were as follows:-

1. Muhammad Shahin-al-Ghanim
2. Sheikh Yusuf bin Isa
3. Abdulla Al-Sagur
4. Mash'an Al-Khudair
5. Sulaiman Al-Adsani
6. Sayid Ali Sayid Sulaiman
7. Mishari Al-Hasan Al-Badur
8. Sultan Al-Kulaib
9. Abdul Latif Al-Thunayyan
10. Yusuf Al-Humaidhi
11. Saleh Al-Othman Al-Rashid
12. Yusuf Al-Murzook
13. Hamad Al-Marzook
14. Khalid Abdul Latif Al-Hamad

All are of well established Kuwaiti families of Nejdi origin, except No.2, who is a Sabean by origin, from Subiya, on the Khor Subiya, but also long settled in Kuwait.

The Sheikh's Secretary endeavoured to form a counter party mostly from among persons of Persian origin.

(b) Loudspeaker Radios and Gramophones are at last to be permitted in coffee shops, where the Ruler has always hitherto forbidden them.

(c) The "Occidental Colony".

Americans and Europeans are now reduced in number owing to Summer leave, and the withdrawal of wives of members of the Oil Company, from Magwa Camp, where suitable summer accommodation is not available.

The state of the colony is now as follows:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) Kuwait town. | | |
| American Mission | 1 Male | 1 Female |
| Oil Company | 3 Males | 1 Female |
| (b) Magwa Oil Camp. | 8 Males | -------- |
| Total, less the Agency | 12 Males | 2 Females. |

91. Egyptian newspaper propaganda against Britain.

The Cairo newspaper "Rabtah al Misriya" (Editor Amin Saied) continues to publish mischievous articles, particularly about Southern Arabia.

Statements, quoted from it being made here about 'War' between various Sultans and the Aden Government advice was given that the next travellers arriving from

Aden

Aden or Mokalla should be examined by the Sheikhs, and asked to give an account of conditions. Some seafarers have now arrived, and the Sheikhs report that they praise British supervision in Southern Arabia.

92. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 115.F |
| Minumum Temperature | 80.F |

(Sgd) G.S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As usual

No.11 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary.

For the period from the 1st to 15th June.

---

80. Royal Navy.

H.M.S.Bideford arrived on the 4th and left on the 8th. Calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

81. Shipping.

S.S.Chile Maru of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 8th and discharged 173 packages of general cargo.

82. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Two Royal Air Force aeroplanes arrived on the 4th. One left on the 7th and the other on the 10th.

(b) Miscellaneous.

The Iraq Petroleum Transport Company's aeroplane arrived on the 4th with Mr.Skliros of the Petroleum Concessions, Ltd and left for Bahrein the same day.

An Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived from Abadan on the 4th with Messrs Keely and Anderson as passengers and returned to Abadan the same day.

83. Movements.

Mr.A.Niall Rankin, Cinematographer left for Basra on the 2nd.

84. His Majesty's Birthday.

His Majesty's Birthday was celebrated in the customary way on June 9th. There was a reception at the Agency for the British, Foreign and British Indian Colonies, and an Arab dinner party for the Ruler and Notables.

521
524

-2-

All shops were closed, except those in the food stuff bazaar, and all masts and ships, including all the pearling boats and numerous dhows were dressed.

The only contretemps was an American Missionary's complaint the same evening that his Bible shop had been closed, and that his colporteur who tried to open it, "only to do his accounts", was asked to close again by the Kuwait police.

85. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The Royal family.

Returning travellers from Riyadh describe the house-warming parties given when the King, last month, moved into his new Palace, called al Muraba, opposite the Shamsiya Gate of Riyadh (described in Para 116 of this Summary for the second half of October, 1937).

(b) Iraqi newspaper al Sijil of Basra.

It is reported that the newspaper as Sijil of Basra was closed for ten days, by order of the Iraq Government, owing to complaints about its articles by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The Ruler of Kuwait had asked the local (Iraqi) Postmaster to forbid its entry to Kuwait, and this request being transferred, through the Postmaster General to the Iraqi Cabinet, and coinciding with the receipt of the complaint from Ibn Saud, the Cabinet have authorized the Postal authorities to refuse to accept delivery of it for Kuwait.

(c) Royal Physician.

Dr.Midhat, known as Sheikh ul Ardh, passed through Kuwait coming from Riyadh on the 8th June.

86. Oil Company.

Kuwaiti Employees of the Standard Oil Company, Arabia California, have arrived on leave from the

-2-

All shops were closed, except those in the food stuff bazaar, and all masts and ships, including all the pearling boats and numerous dhows were dressed.

The only contretemps was an American Missionary's complaint the same evening that his Bible shop had been closed, and that his colporteur who tried to open it, "only to do his accounts", was asked to close again by the Kuwait police.

85. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The Royal family.

Returning travellers from Riyadh describe the house-warming parties given when the King, last month, moved into his new palace, called al Murabba, opposite the Shemaisy Gate of Riyadh (described in Para. 16 of this summary for the second half of October, 1937).

(b) Iraqi newspaper al Sijill of Basra.

It is reported that the newspaper as Sijill of Basra was closed for ten days, by order of the Iraq Government, owing to complaints about its articles by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The Ruler of Kuwait had asked the local (Iraqi) Postmaster to forbid its entry to Kuwait, and this request being transferred, through the Postmaster General to the Iraqi Cabinet, and coinciding with the receipt of the complaint from Ibn Saud, the Cabinet have authorised the Postal authorities to refuse to accept delivery of it for Kuwait.

(c) Royal Physician.

Dr. Midhat, known as Sheikh ul Ardh, passed through Kuwait coming from Riyadh on the 8th June.

86. Oil Company.

Kuwait employees of the Standard Oil Company, Arabia California, have arrived on leave from the

-3-

Province of al Hasa. They give vivid accounts of the quite appalling conditions, due to heat, dust, and sand storms at the camps, in this year which has been remarkable for lack of rain.

Somewhat similar are the accounts of the British employees of the Kuwait Oil Companyof their Magwa camp,in the Kuwait interior; but there heavier rain has kept conditions somewhat better.

87. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 102.F |
| Minimum Temperature | 75.F |

Sd.G.S.de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy to file of paras 77(c) 76(a) + 76(b) 78.

No.10 of 1938
Kuwait Intelligence Summary.
For the period from 16th to 31st May, 1938.

---

Mr Gibson (on return)
Mr Symon
Mr Peel to see

71. Royal Navy.

Nil.

72. Shipping.

Nil.

73. Aviation.

Three Royal Air Force Aeroplanes arrived from Basra on the 17th, returning the same day.

Five Royal Air Force Aeroplanes arrived from Shaiba on the 19th to carry out checking of landing grounds, returning the same day.

Four Royal Air Force Aeroplanes landed on 23rd, and left the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on the 19th with Mr. B.J. Rasmussen as passenger and returned to Abadan the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on 22nd with Mr. Shaw as passenger and returned on the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on 23rd with Mr. Pedder as passenger and returned the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 26th and left with Mr. Shaw as passenger the same day.

74. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait returned from casual leave by a Royal Air Force aeroplane on the 18th.

(b) Others.

Mr. Spinney, head of a Cold Storage Company

No.10 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary.

For the period from 16th to 31st May, 1938.

71. Royal Navy.

Nil.

72. Shipping.

Nil.

73. Aviation.

Three Royal Air Force Aeroplanes arrived from Basra on the 17th, returning the same day.

Five Royal Air Force Aeroplanes arrived from Shaiba on the 19th to carry out checking of landing grounds, returning the same day.

Four Royal Air Force Aeroplanes landed on 23rd, and left the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on the 19th with Mr. B.W. Rasmussen as passenger and returned to Abadan the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on 22nd with Mr. Shaw as passenger and returned on the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on 23rd with Mr. Pedder as passenger and returned the same day.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 26th and left with Mr. Shaw as passenger the same day.

74. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait returned from casual leave by a Royal Air Force aeroplane on the 18th.

(b) Others.

Mr. Spinney, head of a Cold Storage Company

arrived on the 22nd and left on 23rd. He proposes to open an Agency for storage and canned goods in Kuwait and the Kuwait Oil Company are placing a contract with him.

Mr. G.W. Bell, on leave from the Sudan Political Service arrived by Strick Steamer on 23rd and left for Basra on 24th.

Mr. Niall Rankin, travelling in the East on a Cinematographic expedition arrived on the 28th.

Mr. L.D. Scott, General Superintendent, Kuwait Oil Company, accompanied by Mrs. Scott, proceeded on leave to the United Kingdom, on 29th. Mr. T.E. Patrick, Drilling Superintendent, is acting for him.

75. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Aftermath of the Ikhwan Revolt, 1928-30.

Shaikh Mutlaq as Sur of the Mutair has received the King of Saudi Arabia's pardon and invitation to return to him. He left Kuwait for Riyadh on the 23rd, after some eight years in exile at Kuwait.

(b) Ibn Hadba, the well known head guide of the King of Saudi Arabia arrived Kuwait on 20th to wait for Shaikh Yusif Yasin.

(c) Shaikh Yusif Yasin, chief of the Political Diwan of His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia, passed through Kuwait coming from Baghdad and enroute for Riyadh on the evening of the 26th. He only stayed two or three hours having received on arrival a hastening telegram from the King.

(d) In addition to large numbers of Saudi Arabian tribesmen in Iraq and in the Saudi-Iraq Neutral Zone there is a large number camped in the Kuwait Saudi Neutral Zone and in southern Kuwait territory, mostly Bani Khalid and Qahtan, watering at Subaihya, at Twil etc. etc. In accordance with Arab Custom it would be proper for the Shaikh of Kuwait

-3-

Shaikh of Kuwait to collect from them "Zikka" the poll tax which is sanctioned by the Qoran. Before doing so, however, and as a matter of courtesy, His Highness has asked Abdulla an Nafisi, the Saudi Arabian Trade Agent in Kuwait, to remind the King, without mentioning that it is by suggestion of the Shaikh, that "Zikka" of the Saudi Arabian tribes in Kuwait is now due, and due to the Shaikh of Kuwait. This will give the King an opportunity of withdrawing his tribes immediately if he wishes. It is in fact almost too late in the year for them to move and would cause them extreme inconvenience, if not hardship.

(e) Tirbal Locations.

Tribal locations of the three great tribes, Ataiba, Harb and Mutair, and of the Subaih and Ajman elements on the Iraq frontier.

(A) Al Hafar al Batin wells (near Iraq frontiers).

(1) The Subaih tribe, very many tents and Abu Thanain (paramount Shaikh).

(2) The paramount Shaikh of the Ajman, Khalid al Hithlain Emir of the Summan Desert (Zib Sahman) with strong contingent of the Ajman.

(3) Women and children of the late Shaikh Naif al-Hithlain (Abu Kilab) and Ajman details.

(4) Shaikh Mishaal ibn Dhaidan al Hithlain with a large Najiah contingent of the Ajman.

(5) A large Buraih (Mutair) contingent. (The remainder of the Buraih is in Tawal al Mutair).

(B) Ajiba Well Area.

Occupied by Ataiba, in very great numbers, by special permission of Shaikh Muhain al Firim of the Harb, who himself with his whole tribe is in the Tawal al Dhafir.

(C) Tawal Al Dhafir (Saudi-Iraq Neutral Zone).

(1) The Hard tribe under Muhsin al Firm.

(2) The whole of Mutair (Ilwa and Dushan), who during

during the winter and spring, were in the Batin from Riqai to Athaiba.

(D) Safwan (Kuwait-Iraq frontier post).

Large numbers of Bedouin, mixed parties but including stray contingents of Awazim and Ajman from the al Hasa province of Saudi Arabia.

Note:- Those at Safwan are mostly Ibn Saud's tribesmen, while those at (a) (b) and (c) above are all Saudi Arab tribesmen.

76. Iraq.

(a) Shaikh of Kuwait's date gardens.

The Mudir of Fao, it is understood by direction of the Basra Port Director, has been cutting down date trees on three sections of the Shaikh's estates at Fao, in order to make roads which are it is believed required to give access to some new Port Directorate camps.

Warning was sent and written permission requested in the case of one specified part of the estate. Before a reply was received to a letter asking for details of the direction of the road, felling began on that, and also on two other distant parts of the estate, not mentioned in the Mudir's letter. An immediate and personal telegraphic request was made to the Mutasarrif of Basra, to stop the cutting, but the work was carried out swiftly by large gangs of coolies and seems to have been completed by the time the Mutasarrif's counter order, if any had reached the Mudir. Some 1000 trees have been cut or ruined and a detailed report is being submitted to the authorities concerned.

(b) The Ruling family and conscription.

The Iraqi authorities in Basra insist upon Military service being performed by a young Kuwaiti Shaikh, Nasr bin Ali as-Subah, grandson of Shaikh Mohammad, the Ruler of Kuwait from 1892-to 1896, and a cousin of the present Ruler.

He lives rather more than half the year in Zubair

in Zubair in a house given him by his father, visiting Kuwait for the rest of the year, was born, as were his father and ancestors, in Kuwait and holds a Kuwaiti Identity certificate, which the Iraqis refuse to recognize.

An Iraqi lawyer has been able to obtain a respite having been persuaded to give a guarantee that Nasir will appear in 15 days, if he is not ineligible in the interval. According to Nasir's lawyer the Iraqi authorities contend that as he came to live in Iraq in 1923 i.e. before the Treaty of Lausanne, he must serve as an Iraqi.

Meanwhile the man has been advised to come to Kuwait and stay here, where the Shaikh will offer him an appointment.

A report is being submitted to the authorities concerned.

(c) Incursion into Kuwait by Iraqi Customs.

Reliable merchants coming from Subiya, report that the Iraqi Customs Launch was off that place during the third week in May, when there was firing from it after dark.

No official report has been received and it is understood that one will not be made.

(d) Newspaper attacks.

Newspaper attacks, particularly by the Basra newspapers continued to be made on Kuwait and Bahrain.
// Translations are forwarded to the authorities concerned.

77. Local Interests.

(a) Improvements.

The Ruler has issued order for the building, at his expense, of stone and cement arched bazaars to replace the booths of the Bedouin market which stood on his property.

Work is almost completed on some 150 shops.

(b) Shaikh's personal standard.

-5-

in Zubair in a house given him by his father, visiting Kuwait for the rest of the year, was born, as were his father and ancestors, in Kuwait and holds a Kuwaiti Identity certificate, which the Iraqis refuse to recognise.

An Iraqi lawyer has been able to obtain a respite having been persuaded to give a guarantee that Nasir will appear in 15 days, if he is not ineligible in the interval. According to Nasir's lawyer the Iraqi authorities contend that as he came to live in Iraq in 1923 i.e. before the Treaty of Lausanne, he must serve as an Iraqi.

Meanwhile the man has been advised to come to Kuwait and stay here, where the Shaikh will offer him an appointment.

A report is being submitted to the authorities concerned.

(c) Incursion into Kuwait by Iraqi Customs.

Reliable merchants coming from Subiya, report that the Iraqi Customs Launch was off that place during the third week in May, when there was firing from it after dark.

No official report has been received and it is understood that one will not be made.

(d) Newspaper attacks.

Newspaper attacks, particularly by the Basra newspapers continued to be made on Kuwait and Bahrain. Translations are forwarded to the authorities concerned.

77. Local Interests.

(a) Improvements.

The Ruler has issued order for the building, at his expense, of stone and cement arched bazaars to replace the booths of the Bedouin market which stood on his property. Work is almost completed on some 150 shops.

(b) Shaikh's personal standard.

-6-

The Shaikh of Kuwait has taken into use as a personal standard, the Kuwait flag having in its top outside corner a representation of his camel brand in white, that is a vertical line, with shorter straight lines radiating from its centre towards the outer edge of the flag (like one half of a star). This standard is now flown on his Residence, and on the Secretariat, his Yacht and car.

(c) Ruling family.

Shaikh Ahmad bin Mubarak, eldest surviving son of the former Ruler of Kuwait (1896-1915), expired suddenly on 31st May. He was aged 43 and is succeeded by his son Mubarak (born 1920). He was buried, as is customary, very quickly, an hour and half after death. The funeral was attended by all the Shaikhs, almost the entire male population of Kuwait, the Political Agent and the Agency Surgeon.

78. Oil Interests.

No.2 Well of the Kuwait Oil Company, having, as already reported, produced oil of good quality and pressure, and been taken into use for fuel by the Company, work has commenced on No.3 Well. This Well is situated one and half miles East North East of No.2 Well (which is at Burgan, 30 miles South of Kuwait, see R.A.F. map 1,500,000). It is assumed that No.3 Well will give good results by about October.

(b) It may be of passing interest to note that the Bedouins in the neighbourhood of Burgan well have already discovered the efficacy of the oil left in the surplus pit of the well as a sheep and camel dip, and quite large numbers have had to be turned away.

79. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 110.F. |
| Minimum Temperature | 71.F. |

G.S. de Gaury,
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
Dated the 1st June, 1938.
DISTRIBUTION:- as usual.

No. 9 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th May 1938.



65. Royal Navy.

Nil

66. Shipping.

S.S.Mantai Maru of Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 8th and discharged 155 packages of general cargo.

S.S.Bradburn of Mitsui Line arrived on the 9th and discharged 4000 bags of cement and 187 packages of general goods.

67. Aviation.

Nil

68. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra enroute Beirut on 30th April on three weeks casual leave.

(b) Others.

Mr. & Mrs. G.J.Beatty, American journalists, arrived on the 9th and left on the 11th. They stayed with DR.W.W.Thoms of the American Mission.

Herr H.J.Wattenberg, representative of Messrs. F. Unduetsch and Co., (Iraq) Ltd., arrived on the 11th and left on the 14th.

Major Frank Holmes left for Basra on the 14th, but is expected to return.

69. Saudi Arabia.

While Captain de Gaury was in Syria he met Fuad Bey Hamza who is living in his villa (Style Cote d' Azur) at Beirut.

Fuad Bey said that what doctors in Europe had not not been able to discover Syrian doctors had, His bad heart was entirely due to a deranged digestive system caused by drinking too much Hejaz water and eating Bedouin food. He was in consequence leaving for Central Europe in July, and proposed touring in his motor car various curative centres, which would

No. 9 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th May 1938.



65. Royal Navy.

Nil

66. Shipping.

S.S.Mantai Maru of Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 8th and discharged 155 packages of general cargo.

S.S.Bradburn of Mitsui Line arrived on the 9th and discharged 4000 bags of cement and 157 packages of general goods.

67. Aviation.

Nil

68. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait left for Basra enroute Beirut on 30th April on three weeks casual leave.

(b) Others.

Mr. & Mrs. C.T.Beatty, American journalists, arrived on the 9th and left on the 11th. They stayed with DR.W.Thoms of the American Mission.

Herr H.J.Wettenberg, representative of Messrs. F. Undeutsch and Co., (Iraq) Ltd., arrived on the 11th and left on the 14th.

Major Frank Holmes left for Basra on the 14th, but is expected to return.

69. Saudi Arabia.

While Captain de Gaury was in Syria he met Fuad Bey Hamza who is living in his villa (Style Cote d' Azur) at Beirut.

Fuad Bey said that what doctors in Europe had not not been able to discover Syrian doctors had. His bad heart was entirely due to a damaged digestive system caused by drinking too much Hejaz water and eating Bedouin food. He was in consequence leaving for Central Europe in July, and proposed touring in his motor car various curative centres, which would

entail his prolonged absence from Saudi Arabia.

70. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 104F.

(b) Minimum Temperature 68F.

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury

Distribution As Usual

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

No. 8 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th to 30th April, 1938.

---

58. Royal Navy.

Nil.

59. Shipping.

S.S. Hoegh Siverstar of the Dutch Line arrived from Java on the 27th April 1938 and discharged 740 bags of coffee.

60. Aviation.

Nil.

61. Visitors.

The Countess of Carlisle arrived on the 16th and left for Iraq on the 22nd.

Major Holmes left for Iraq on the 25th.

Baron Pierre Victor Felix de Caiffier d'Hestroy, attached to the Belgian Legation in Tehran, and Monsieur Jacques Greffe, son of the Belgian Minister in Tehran, arrived on the 27th and left the same day.

62. Saudi Arabia.

On the 20th there were (unfounded) rumours brought from Zubair, in the bazaar that Ibn Saud was marching on Palestin[e]. These persisted for several days, and are believed to be due to the news of quantities of petrol being sent from Kuwait to the King's camp recently.

63. Kuwait Oil Company.

On the 24th His Highness the Sheikh was invited to witness the Burgan Well producing oil. Major Frank Holmes the London Representative of the Sheikh to the Kuwait Oil Company was also present.

64. Meteorological.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Maximum Temperature. | 103.F |
| (b) | Minimum Temperature | 64.F |



Distribution As Usual

Sd. G.S.de Gaury,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

No. 8 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th to 30th April, 1938.

---

58. Royal Navy.

Nil.

59. Shipping.

S.S. Hoegh Silverstar of the Dutch Line arrived from Java on the 27th April 1938 and discharged 740 bags of coffee.

60. Aviation.

Nil.

61. Visitors.

The Countess of Carlisle arrived on the 16th and left for Iraq on the 22nd.

Major Holmes left for Iraq on the 25th.

Baron Pierre Victor Felix de Caiffier d'Hestroy, attached to the Belgian Legation in Tehran, and Monsieur Jacques Greffe, son of the Belgian Minister in Tehran, arrived on the 27th and left the same day.

62. Saudi Arabia.

On the 20th there were (unfounded) rumours brought from Zubair, in the bazaar that Ibn Saud was marching on Palestine. These persisted for several days, and are believed to be due to the news of quantities of petrol being sent from Kuwait to the King's camp recently.

63. Kuwait Oil Company.

On the 24th His Highness the Shaikh was invited to witness the Burgan Well producing oil. Major Frank Holmes the London Representative of the Shaikh to the Kuwait Oil Company was also present.

64. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature. 103.F

(b) Minimum Temperature 64.F



Distribution As Usual

Sd. G.S.de Gaury,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

No.7 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th April 1938.

---

49. Royal Navy.

Nil.

50. Shipping.

S.S. "Steel Worker" of the American Line arrived from New York on the 8th and discharged ten cases of Ford cars.

S.S." Yamayuri" (Yamashita Line) arrived on the 8th and discharged 206 packages of piece goods.

51. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Nil.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 9th from Abadan with drilling material for the Kuwait Oil Company, and returned the same day.

52. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr.D.F.A.Brickell, M.B.E., British Consul, Basra accompanied by Mrs.Brickell arrived on the 2nd and left on the 5th. Mr. and Mrs. Brickell stayed with the Political Agent.

(b) Others.

Twenty-two Iraqi students with teachers arrived on the 3rd and left on the 6th.

Mrs.Gosselink of the American Mission arrived from Basra on the 14th.

Mr.Toby of Messrs. Hills Brothers, Basra accompanied

by six persons arrived on a holiday trip on the 14th and stayed in the house of Sheikh Hilal al Mutairi, a Kuwaiti merchant.

53. Tour of the Political Agent.

Captain de Gaury visited Falaicha and Meshjan Islands on the 7th returning to Kuwait on the 10th.

(a) The Agency Surgeon vaccinated 92 children and attended to some cases of sickness on Falaicha Island. The health of the inhabitants appears to be unusually good.

(b) Some sandstone blocks 3 foot by 2 foot 6 inches have been uncovered by ploughing on the side of a small mound a mile East of the village of Zor. The blocks are well squared. No such stone is quarried on Falaicha Island.

54. Iraq.

The Iraqi frontier post at Safwan was damaged by fire on the 1st.

It is understood that two bungalows, two armed cars, the petrol store, and about twenty thousand rounds of ammunition were destroyed.

55. Saudi Arabia.

(a) A second very large quantity of petrol was sent out to the King's party in the Summan plain, from where he has now returned to Riyadh.

(b) Petrol from Kuwait was also sent to the party consisting, it is understood of, Saudi and Iraqi officials and American Geologists who are locating and marking the frontier near the Iraq Neutral Zone.

56. Royal Air Force.

(a) Owing to adverse winds, which prevented her making more than 60 miles an hour ground speed, the City of Delhi, VT AG Echelon B.11, bound for Cairo, from

-3-

the H.W.F.P., landed at Kuwait on the evening of the 11th, and refuelled and left the next morning. Her eleven officers and men were accomodated in the Political Agency.

(b) No. 4 Armoured car section arrived from Shaiba on the 14th for four days. Their baggage lorry was destroyed by fire on the way to Kuwait.

Beds were supplied to the officers from the Agency, and other new supplies were received by Air.

57. Meteorological.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Maximum Temperature | 93.F |
| | Minimum Temperature | 54.F |
| (b) | Rainfall | Nil |

Sd. G.S.de Gaury. Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

No. 6 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 16th to 31st March 1938.

---

41. Royal Navy.

Nil.

42. Shipping.

S.S.Bengkalis from Java arrived on the 29th March and discharged 345 bags of coffee and 50 cases tea.

S.S.Lwatesan Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 16th March and discharged 2000 bags of cement and 69 packages of piece goods.

43. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Nil

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mrs.J.M.Lees arrived on the 24th March.

44. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S.de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait visited Basra on the 14th and 21st in connection with the Sheikh of Kuwait's date gardens' case and returned on the 15th and 25th March respectively.

(b) Others.

Monsieur Jean Lescuyer, French Minister at Baghdad and Madame Lescuyer arrived unexpectedly on Sunday 27th at 10-30 A.M. and left again at 2 P.M. for Iraq.

As the Political Agent was out when they called at the Agency no hospitality could be offered to them. The Minister spent an hour or two in the bazaar, where a letter from the Political Agent, and an Agency orderly sent to attend

No. 6 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 16th to 31st March 1938.

41. Royal Navy.

Nil.

42. Shipping.

S.S.Bangkalis from Java arrived on the 29th March and discharged 345 bags of coffee and 50 cases tea.

S.S.Lwatessan Maru of the Mitsui Line arrived from Japan on the 16th March and discharged 2000 bags of cement and 59 packages of piece goods.

43. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Nil

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mrs.J.M.Lees arrived on the 24th March.

44. Movements.

(a) Official.

Captain G.S.de Gaury, Political Agent, Kuwait visited Basra on the 14th and 21st in connection with the Sheikh of Kuwait's date gardens' case and returned on the 15th and 25th March respectively.

(b) Others.

Monsieur Jean Lescuyer, French Minister at Baghdad and Madame Lescuyer arrived unexpectedly on Sunday 27th at 10-30 A.M. and left again at 2 P.M. for Iraq.

As the Political Agent was out when they called at the Agency no hospitality could be offered to them. The Minister spent an hour or two in the bazaar, where a letter from the Political Agent, and an Agency orderly sent to attend

sent to attend him, at last found him.

45. Local Interests.

(a) Kuwait.

One Muhammad al Barak, reputed to be rather light headed, the poor descendant of a rich family, who is always in close companionship with one Mohammad Habib, the son of an Iraqi tobacconist established in Kuwait, who writes for the Basra newspapers, has been endeavouring to stir up trouble.

Certain of the gayer Kuwaiti taxi drivers were disgruntled because women in Kuwait are not allowed beyond the walls, except with a pass, or accompanied by a male member of their family. al Barak persuaded the drivers to strike against this.

He is now in prison, where it was discovered that he was, as suspected, the author of numerous subversive and indecent anonymous writings against the Sheikh, and Sheikh Abdulla Jabir, his town lieutenant.

(b) Date Garden case.

The validity of title to a date garden in Iraq, belonging to His Highness the Sheikh and his Co-heirs, has been challenged by the lawyer of a relation of the man from whom the Sheikh's grandfather bought the estate, in 1909 for £.42,000, by a deed of sale which is not, as far as is known, disputed.

An Egyptian lawyer, Ahmad Rushdi Bey, a former Senator has been especially brought over to prepare the defence in the case which opened on March 23rd in the Basra court and was postponed until April 11th.

46. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Accidental death of the King's nephew.

The Emir Mohammad bin Abdur Rahman sent into Kuwait on the 23rd for a doctor to go out urgently to Rijm

-2-

sent to attend him, at last found him.

45. Local Interests.

(a) Kuwait.

One Muhammad al Barak, reputed to be rather light headed, the poor descendant of a rich family, who is always in close companionship with one Mohammad Habib, the son of an Iraqi tobacconist established in Kuwait, who writes for the Basra newspapers, has been endeavouring to stir up trouble.

Certain of the gayer Kuwaiti taxi drivers were disgruntled because women in Kuwait are not allowed beyond the walls, except with a pass, or accompanied by a male member of their family. al Barak persuaded the drivers to strike against this.

He is now in prison, where it was discovered that he was, as suspected, the author of numerous subversive and indecent anonymous writings against the Shaikh, and Shaikh Abdulla Jabir, his town Lieutenant.

(b) Date Garden case.

The validity of title to a date garden in Iraq, belonging to His Highness the Shaikh and his Co-heirs, has been challenged by the lawyer of a relation of the man from whom the Shaikh's grandfather bought the estate, in 1909 for £.42,000, by a deed of sale which is not, as far as is known, disputed.

An Egyptian lawyer, Ahmad Rushdi Bey, a former Senator has been especially brought over to prepare the defence in the case which opened on March 23rd in the Basra court and was postponed until April 11th.

46. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Accidental death of the King's nephew.

The Emir Mohammad bin Abdur Rahman sent into Kuwait on the 23rd for a doctor to go out urgently to Rijm

Al Hakim in the Summan plain. Dr.Thoms of the American Mission was despatched with utmost speed.

There he found the Emir Khalid bin Mohammad bin Abdur Rahman dying, and three of his soldier companions severly hurt, as a result of their car stopping dead, against a low bank during a chase after gazelle at high speed. The three men were brought into hospital in Kuwait for treatment. A fourth man travelling on the back of the car, was it is related hurled forty yards but landed unhurt.

The Emir Khalid bin Mohammad was renowned as an influential leader. It is expected that the King will come out to the Summan to condole with his brother. Part of his lorry supply train is already on its way to Kuwait to refill.

(b) Tribal trade with Kuwait.

All the Bedouins of Nejd in the vicinity of the frontier have received permission to restock at Kuwait. The Awazim tribe are expected to spend the whole summer in Kuwait territory.

47. Syria.

Dahan as Shaalan of the Ruwalla Sheikhly family, from Syria, passed through Kuwait for Riyadh on the 29th.

48. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 76. F

Minimum Temperature 45. F

(b) Rainfall.

Average rainfall during the year. 4. 00 Inches

Rainfall during the period under review. Nil

Total rainfall for the winter season to date 6.19 Inches.

Sd.G.S.de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual

-3-

Al Hakim in the Summan plain. Dr. Thoms of the American Mission was despatched with utmost speed.

There he found the Emir Khalid bin Mohammad bin Abdur Rahman dying, and three of his soldier companions severly hurt, as a result of their car stopping dead, against a low bank during a chase after gazelle at high speed. The three men were brought into hospital in Kuwait for treatment. A fourth man travelling on the back of the car, was it is related hurled forty yards but landed unhurt.

The Emir Khalid bin Mohammad was renowned as an influential leader. It is expected that the King will come out to the Summan to condole with his brother. Part of his lorry supply train is already on its way to Kuwait to refill.

(b) Tribal trade with Kuwait.

All the Bedouins of Nejd in the vicinity of the frontier have received permission to restock at Kuwait. The Awazim tribe are expected to spend the whole summer in Kuwait territory.

47. Syria.

Dahan as Shaalan of the Ruwalla Sheikhly family, from Syria, passed through Kuwait for Riyadh on the 29th.

48. Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 76. F

Minimum Temperature 45. F

(b) Rainfall.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average rainfall during the year. | 4. 00 Inches |
| Rainfall during the period under review. | Nil. |

Total rainfall for the winter season to date 6.19 Inches.

Sd.G.S.de Gaury.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual

Secret.

No. 5 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 1st to 15th March 1938.

F O
DMI
Mis Cl

5

33. Royal Navy.

Nil

pp. 1622- 30/45

34. Shipping.

M.V. "Hoegh Transporter" of the Java Pacific Line arrived from Java on 1st March with 620 cases coffee and 50 cases tea.

S.S. "Shanghai Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on 7th March with 260 cases general goods and 142 bales piece goods.

M.V. "Uhenfels" of Hansa Line arrived from Bremen on 10th March with one tug boat, 350 bags sugar and 75 cases merchandise.

35. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Owing to the inaguration of the "All-up" Air Mail Service by flying boats, operation of the aeroplanes of Imperial Airways through Kuwait has been discontinued. According to the Times (presumably because Kuwait has an Iraqi Post Office) the new Postal Rates for Imperial air mail do not apply to Kuwait.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mr. J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., Director of the Company as passenger arrived on the 3rd and returned to Abadan on the 4th.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane returned

to Kuwait/

Secret.

No. 6 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

for the period from the 1st to 15th March 1938.

33. Royal Navy.

Nil

34. Shipping.

M.V. "Hoegh Transporter" of the Java Pacific Line arrived from Java on 1st March with 630 cases coffee and 50 cases tea.

S.S. "Shanghai Maru" of the Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on 7th March with 280 cases general goods and 142 bales piece goods.

M.V. "Uhenfels" of Hansa Line arrived from Bremen on 10th March with one tug boat, 350 bags sugar and 75 cases merchandise.

35. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Owing to the inauguration of the "all-up" Air Mail Service by flying boats, operation of the aeroplanes of Imperial Airways through Kuwait has been discontinued.

According to the Times (presumably because Kuwait has an Iraqi Post Office) the new Postal Rates for Imperial air mail do not apply to Kuwait.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mr. J.A. Jameson, C.B.E., Director of the Company as passenger arrived on the 3rd and returned to Abadan on the 4th.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane returned to Kuwait;

to Kuwait on the 7th with drilling material for Burgan oil well going back to Abadan the same day.

36. Movements.

(a) Official.

The Political Agent, Kuwait went to Basra on the 14th and returned to Kuwait on the 15th.

(b) Others.

Major C. Warren, the Rifle Brigade, a member of the British Mission to Iraq, arrived from Basra on 2nd March and left on the 12th for Iraq.

Mohammed Fakhri Bey Baroudi, a Syrian Deputy and Kazem Bey el-Solh, Lebanese journalist arrived to stay with the Ruler on 4th and left on the 7th.

Rev. F.J. Barny of the American Mission, Kuwait and his wife left for Bahrain by the slow mail on the 25th. Rev. Barny has now completed his forty years of service with the Mission, and is returning to the United States of America.

Mr. George Pierrot, an American Educationalist, arrived on 5th to stay with the American Mission and returned on the 8th.

37. Saudi Arabia.

Migration.

The lack of early rain in central Arabia, has brought increasingly large numbers of Bedouins to Kuwait and North-East Nejd.

The latest Nomads to arrive are section of the QAHTAN from the marches of the Yemen. Elements of the MANASIR have followed on the SAHOUL and SUBAIH tribes and there are even parties of the AHL MORRA from near the RUBA' AL KHALI (The Empty Quarter).

38. Iraq Newspapers.

"Al-Bilad" A Baghdad newspaper says that according to news/

- 2 -

to Kuwait on the 7th with building material for Burgan oil well going back to Abadan the same day.

36. Movements.

(a) Official.

The Political Agent, Kuwait went to Basra on the 14th and returned to Kuwait on the 16th.

(b) Others.

Major C. Warren, the Rifle Brigade, a member of the British Mission to Iraq, arrived from Basra on 2nd March and left on the 12th for Iraq.

Mohammed Fakhri Bey Baroudi, a Syrian Deputy and Kazem Bey el-Solh, Lebanese journalist arrived to stay with the Ruler on 4th and left on the 7th.

Rev. F.J. Barny of the American Mission, Kuwait and his wife left for Bahrain by the slow mail on the 25th. Rev. Barny has now completed his forty years of service with the Mission, and is returning to the United States of America.

Mr. George Pierrot, an American Educationalist, arrived on 5th to stay with the American Mission and returned on the 8th.

37. Saudi Arabia.

Migration.

The lack of early rain in central Arabia, has brought increasingly large numbers of Bedouins to Kuwait and North-East Nejd.

The latest Nomads to arrive are section of the QAHTAN from the marshes of the Yemen. Elements of the MANASIR have followed on the SAHOUL and SUBAIH tribes and there are even parties of the AHL MURRA from near the RUBA' AL KHALI (The Empty Quarter).

38. Iraq Newspapers.

"AL-Bilad" A Baghdad newspaper says that according to news/

to news received from Riadh, a visit of King Ibn Saud to Kuwait is fixed for the coming spring, to discuss political matters outstanding between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

In the same number of the paper there is news about the inauguration of a daily Arabic Broadcast from India from 1st April. As far as is known there is no foundation for either statement.

39. Local Interests.

The S.S. "Traqqi" arrived from Abadan with barytes for the Kuwait Oil Company on the 1st March. She was brought alongside at Shuwaikh west of the town and unloaded direct over a barge at the end of the short quay belonging to the Kuwait Landing Company. There was 21 feet of water beneath her.

40. Meteorological.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Maximum Temperature | 75.F |
| | Minimum Temperature | 48.F |
| (b) | Rainfall | |
| | Average rainfall during the year | 4.00 Inches |
| | Rainfall during the period under review | 0.95 " |
| | Total rainfall for the winter season to date | 6.19 " |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury Captain
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

- 5 -

to news received from Riadh, a visit of King Ibn Saud to Kuwait is fixed for the coming spring, to discuss political matters outstanding between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

In the same number of the paper there is news about the inauguration of a daily Arabic Broadcast from India from 1st April. As far as is known there is no foundation for either statement.

39. Local Interests.

The S.S. "Traggi" arrived from Abadan with barytes for the Kuwait Oil Company on the 1st March. She was brought alongside at Shuwaikh west of the town and unloaded direct over a barge at the end of the short quay belonging to the Kuwait Landing Company. There was 21 feet of water beneath her.

40. Meteorological.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Maximum Temperature | 75.7 |
| | Minimum Temperature | 48.7 |
| (b) | Rainfall | |
| | Average rainfall during the year | 4.00 Inches |
| | Rainfall during the period under review | 0.95 " |
| | Total rainfall for the winter season to date | 6.19 " |

(Sgd) G. S. de Gaury Captain

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

Secret.

No. 4 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from the 16th February to the 28th February, 1938.

---

23. Royal Navy.

Nil

24. Shipping.

Nil

25. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 20th and 28th.

Eastbound landed here on the 21st.

26. Movements.

(a) Official.

The Political Agent, Kuwait left on the 24th for Araifjan in southern Kuwait territory returning on the 26th.

(b) Others.

Mr. H. Montague Bell, Editor of the Near East and India arrived from 'Iraq on the 25th and returned on the 28th. He stayed with the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, Ltd., and interviewed Colonel Dickson.

Mr. G. Colville of Messrs the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Ltd., Abadan arrived here from Abadan by car on the 27th.

27. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Official Visitors.

The Emir of the frontier town of Jarya al Ilya Mohammed bin Umir, arrived in Kuwait on short leave and returned. He paid a call at the Agency on the 17th.

He comes from Riyadh and is a prepossessing man of about 30, who made a good impression on this, his first, visit to Kuwait.

(b) Tribal Visitors.

Fallah bin Sultan and Nasr Ibn Hithlain of the Ajman/

Secret.

No. 4 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

for the period from the 16th February to the 28th February, 1938.

---

23. Royal Navy.

Nil

24. Shipping.

Nil

25. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 20th and 28th. Eastbound landed here on the 21st.

26. Movements.

(a) Official.

The Political Agent, Kuwait left on the 24th for Arifjan in southern Kuwait territory returning on the 26th.

(b) Others.

Mr. H. Montague Bell, Editor of the Near East and India arrived from 'Iraq on the 25th and returned on the 26th. He stayed with the General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company, Ltd., and interviewed Colonel Dickson.

Mr. C. Colville of Messrs the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Ltd., Abadan arrived here from Abadan by car on the 27th.

27. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Official Visitors.

The Amir of the frontier town of Qarya al Ilya Mohammed bin Umir, arrived in Kuwait on short leave and returned. He paid a call at the Agency on the 17th.

He comes from Riyadh and is a prepossessing man of about 30, who made a good impression on this, his first, visit to Kuwait.

(b) Tribal Visitors.

Fallah bin Sultan and Nasr Ibn Hithlain of the

Ajman/

Ajman both paid short visits to Kuwait.

(c) Stores for Royalty.

The Emir Muhammed bin Abdur Rahman, elder brother of the King, sent into Kuwait for large quantities of stores and petrol. The transport of Kuwait was nearly all away at the pilgrimage, and the Saudi Agent, was disturbed to find that he was unable to get the stores away as early as required.

28. 'Iraq.

One Mohammad Tomah, an 'Iraqi of the minor - agriculturist class, aged about 48, stout, with a cast in one eye, alleging business connections with Shami Shawkat on an estate at Dora near Baghdad arrived here about 9th February, and has drawn attention to himself by endeavouring to obtain the confidence of local notables and the Political Agent. He accounted for his visit to the latter by saying that he was hoping to visit Sheikhly relations among the Bedouins. When questioned as to who they were he replied with only trifling hesitation, "Ibn Urair". (Ibn Urair is the Arab hero who died in 1769 A.D.)

To the local authorities he said that he was carrying urgent despatches for Ibn Saud and asked for immediate onward transport arrangements to be made for him. He was sent to the Saudi Agent but as he could not produce any despatches or authority, the Saudi Agent, after telegraphing to Riyadh, refused to send him on.

He is being asked by the local authorities to leave.

29. 'Iraq Saudi Frontier.

Dhafir Tribe.

Hantush as Suwait, Dhafiri Sheikh visited Kuwait.

30. Local Interests.

Reference para 149 (2) of Summary No. 17 of 1937.

The black girl concerned, now a "freed woman" and in search of home, has been taken into employ by the American Missionaries.

- 3 -

31. Kuwait Oil Company.

The Kuwait Oil Company have struck oil at 3700 feet at Burgan. The quantity will not be known for some weeks but quality is said to be about the same as that at Bahrain, with good pressure.

32. Meteorological.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (a) | Maximum Temperature | 70.F |
| | Minimum Temperature | 43.F |
| (b) | Rainfall. | |
| | Average rain during the year | 4.00" |
| | Rain during the period | 1.66" |
| | Total rainfall | 5.24" |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Distribution As Usual.

Secret.

No. 3 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st February to 15th February, 1938.

---

16. Royal Navy.

Nil

17. Shipping.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 12th February with 200 cases soap and 379 packages general goods.

18. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound plane landed here on the 6th. The one due here on the 13th did not land.

Esatbound plane landed here on the 7th. The one due here on the 14th did not land.

19. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr. J.P.Summerscale Commercial Attache' of the British Embassy, Baghdad and Mrs. Summerscale arrived here from 'Iraq on the 11th and returned on the 13th. They stayed with Khalid Abdul Latif, a local merchant and were accompanied by

(1) as Sayid Salib Jabbur, Director of Customs and Excise, Baghdad.
(2) Rustam Haidar, former Minister of Finance and now member of the Senate.
(3) as Sayid Hussain Ajnan, of the 'Iraq Railways Head Office and Madame Ajnan.
(4) Munirah Antoon Khayyat, wife of Fuad Beg Abdul Jabbar Pasha al Khayyat.
(5) Mrs. Drower, wife of the Adviser to the Ministry of Justice.

(b) Others.

Mrs. E.C.Reed, wife of the Staff Manager of the 'Iraq Petroleum Company at Haifa arrived here on the

1st February

Secret.

No. 5 of 1938.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st February to 15th February, 1938.

16. Royal Navy.

Nil

17. Shipping.

S.S. "Chile Maru" of Yamashita Line arrived from Japan on the 13th February with 200 cases soap and 379 packages general goods.

18. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound plane landed here on the 6th. The one due here on the 13th did not land.

Eastbound plane landed here on the 7th. The one due here on the 14th did not land.

19. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr. J.P.Summerscale Commercial Attache' of the British Embassy, Baghdad and Mrs. Summerscale arrived here from 'Iraq on the 11th and returned on the 13th. They stayed with Khalid Abdul Latif, a local merchant and were accompanied by

(1) as Sayid Salih Jabbur, Director of Customs and Excise, Baghdad.
(2) Rustam Haidar, former Minister of Finance and now member of the Senate.
(3) as Sayid Husain Afnan, of the 'Iraq Railways Head office and Madame Afnan.
(4) Hamirah Antoon Khayyat, wife of Fuad Beg Abdul Jabbar Pasha al Khayyat.
(5) Mrs. Drower, wife of the Adviser to the Ministry of Justice.

(b) Others.

Mrs. E.O.Reed, wife of the Staff Manager of the 'Iraq Petroleum Company at Haifa arrived here on the

1st February

1st February to stay in the American Mission. She left for Basra on the 13th.

Abdul Karim, Abdulla and Mohammed Saied, sons of the late Sheikh Khazal of Mohammerah arrived on the 11th and left on the 13th.

Miss E.M.Lindley and Mrs.E.K.Hughes arrived from Basra by car on the 12th to stay with an employee of the Kuwait Oil Company.

20. 'Iraq.

The 'Iraqi newspapers continue to publish grossly inaccurate information about Persian Gulf affairs. "al Bilad" of the 28th January stated that the Ruler of Kuwait Lord Belhaven and Stenton has arrived at Jedda "to discuss outstanding frontier questions between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with Ibn Saud".

1458/38

(Lord Belhaven was, as Colonel Hamilton, Political Agent of Kuwait in 1917 and 1918 and did visit Ibn Saud to discuss some Political matters, but twenty years ago.)

21. Local Interests.

Spring Camps.

As usual the notables and many of the merchants began during this period to move out to their camps in the plains behind Kuwait, and further afield in the hinterland.

His Highness the Ruler has moved to his hunting lodge at Bayan, south of Kuwait, and the town remains almost deserted of notables.

They will be away as usual until the grazing dies down in June.

22. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) Maximum Temperature | 67.F |
| (b) Minimum Temperature | 41.F |

Rainfall.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average Rainfall | 4.00 inches |
| Rainfall during the period | 0.06" |
| Total for winter season | 3.58" |

Distribution As usual

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

- 2 -

1st February to stay in the American Mission. She left for Basra on the 15th.

Abdul Karim, Abdulla and Mohammed Saied, sons of the late Sheikh Khazal of Mohammerah arrived on the 11th and left on the 13th.

Miss E.M.Findley and Mrs.K.M.Hughes arrived from Basra by car on the 12th to stay with an employee of the Kuwait Oil Company.

20. 'Iraq.

The 'Iraqi newspapers continue to publish grossly inaccurate information about Persian Gulf affairs. "al Bilad" of the 28th January stated that the Ruler of Kuwait Lord Belhaven and Stenton has arrived at Jedda "to discuss outstanding frontier questions between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia with Ibn Saud".

(Lord Belhaven was, as Colonel Hamilton, Political Agent of Kuwait in 1917 and 1918 and did visit Ibn Saud to discuss some political matters, but twenty years ago.)

21. Local Interest.

Spring Camps.

As usual the notables and many of the merchants began during this period to move out to their camps in the plains behind Kuwait, and further afield in the hinterland.

His Highness the Ruler has moved to his hunting lodge at Bayen, south of Kuwait, and the town remains almost deserted of notables.

They will be away as usual until the grazing dies down in June.

22. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) Maximum Temperature | 67.F |
| (b) Minimum Temperature | 41.F |

Rainfall.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average Rainfall | 4.00 inches |
| Rainfall during the period | 0.06" |
| Total for winter season | 5.58" |

Distribution As usual

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury, Lt.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Secret.

No. 2 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th January to 31st January, 1938.

---

8. Royal Navy.

Nil.

9. Shipping.

S.S. Hoeg Silverlight (SilverJava Pacific Line) arrived on the 21st and discharged 754 bags of coffee, 250 cases tea, and 30 bags pepper.

S.S. Shikisan Maru (Mitsui Line) arrived from Japan on the 22nd and discharged 6000 bags cement and 22 packages general cargo.

10. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 16th and 23rd. The one due here on the 30th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 17th, 24th and 31st.

11. Movements.

(a) Official.

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Lt. J.R.Cotton, and staff left for Bushire by the British India Steam Navigation Company's Slow Mail on the 22nd.

Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait went to Basra on the 24th and returned to Kuwait on the 27th.

(b) Others.

Reference para 4 (b) of Summary No. 1. The sons and daughter of the late Sheikh Khazal of Mohammerah left

left on the 17th for Basra by car.

Lady Cox, D.B.E., arrived from Basra on the 19th and stayed with Colonel Dickson, C.I.E., She left for Bahrain by Air on the 24th.

12. Italian Broadcasts.

On the 25th Italy broadcasted a description of Kuwait and her Ruler.

The modern town (?), alongside the old, was described in detail, as was Kuwait's Municipality, the gardens and parks, the upto date buildings, the perfection of its climate, and the excellence of the arrangements made for visitors, so that listeners must have thought that there is really very little to choose between Kuwait and Monte Carlo.

In short Kuwait was described as if all the schemes for its improvement and progress ever thought of, had now materialized, and as if it were always winter and hightide.

(b) This description, together with the "straight news" broadcast in Arabic from London, has done much to discredit wireless information from Rome.

13. Tribal Locations.

Dhafir.

(a) Ajimi as Suwait is camped at Amghar on the Iraq-Saudi frontier.

(b) His immediate followers have moved further inside Iraq, owing to rumours of raids, and are mostly about 'Adan and Layah, watering at Khabari Thamriya.

(c) Al Uraif are at Jaraibiyat watering at Khadhr Al Ma' in Iraq. This section did not enter Iraq last year and had come to be considered as more Saudi than Iraqi.

(d) The Bani Hussain are at Chilwa inside the Iraq frontier.

Awazim.

Awazim (Nejd)

Most of the Awazim are in Kuwait territory about Shiqqat ibn Zigair, Riqai and the Batin.

Subaih (Nejd)

Sections of the Subaih from Nejd are watering at al Ugubba; others are East of the Batin in Kuwait territory.

Bani Khalid (Nejd)

Sections of the Bani Khalid are between Shiqqat Ath Thuwaiba and Ummar Ruwaisat in Kuwait territory.

Shammar (Iraq)

(a) Abda, sections are at Qaisuma in Saudi Arabia.

(b) Nowwaf Ibn Shuraim is at Juraiba in Saudi Arabia.

(c) Abbas bin Habbas is at Aida on the Darab az Zobeida in Iraq.

Muntafiq.

(a) The donkey sections (Haqra)are between Umm Rahal and the Kuwait frontier, where are camped the notables Thamir as Saadun, Ibrahim al Mizaal, ad Abdulla al Falah as Saadun (the latter is notorious for conservatism having some years ago killed an official of the Iraq Ministry of the Interior for marrying a relation of his).

(b) Other hagra sections, the majority, are in Kuwait territory north of the Zor ridge.

14. The Sheikh of Kuwait's Date Gardens in Iraq.

Ownership of certain of his gardens in Iraq, a case against the Sheikh is being raised by the heirs of Ahmad Pasha az Zuhair, in the Basra courts.

The gardens in question were purchased by Sheikh Mubarak in 1908.

15. Meteorological.

| (a) | Maximum Temperature | 64.F |
|---|---|---|
| | Minimum Temperature | 41.F |

(b) Rainfall.

(a) Average Rainfall 4 Inches

- 4 -

(a) Average Rainfall 4 Inches

(b) Rainfall during the period under review 0.43"

(c) Total for winter season to date 3.52"

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
31st January, 1938.

---

Distribution As Usual.

No.1 of 1938

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st January to 15th January, 1938.

---------------

1.Royal Navy.

H.M.S.Fowey arrived on the 5th and left on the 8th.

2.Shipping.

S.S.Mantai Maru arrived from Japan on the 7th and discharged 162 bales of piece goods and 192 cases of piece goods and hardware.

3.Aviation.

(a)Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b)Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 2nd and 9th.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 3rd and 10th.

(c)Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mr.Strong as passenger arrived here on the 15th and returned to Abadan the same day.

4.Movements.

(a)Official.

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle,K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Lieutenant J.R.Cotton, Confidential Assistant Mr.J.Croning, M.B.E., and staff arrived on the 14th.

(b)Others.

Mr. & Mrs.C.M.Mitchell of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Abadan left for Basra by car on the 1st.

Abdul Aziz, Abdul Majid and Mohammed Sa'id, sons of the late Shaikh Khazal of Mohammerah, accompanied by their sister Muratib arrived from Basra by car on the 3rd.

Flight Lieutenant Franks, Royal Air Force, a member of the British Mission to the Iraq army, and Mrs. Franks, arrived

on the 7th from Basra by car and returned on the 15th.

Ash-Sharif Shahin bin Muhsin and his son, Saudi Arabian subjects, arrived on the 14th. They come from Medina, and have stayed in Egypt, in Transjordan with the Emir Abdulla, and in Iraq as guest of King Ghazi. They are accompanied by Saif bin Nasr, a Sharif formerly in the entourage of the late King Ali of the Hejaz, now an Iraqi.

On the 5th Nasr bin Jasim bin Thani of Qatr passed through Kuwait on his way to Bagdad, for medical treatment. He was travelling on a Saudi Arabia Certificate issued in al Hasa.

5. Local Interests.

Oil.

The difficulty found in boring the well of the Kuwait Oil Company at Burgan, south of Kuwait, owing to fissures, with consequent loss of mud circulation, has been overcome, and boring now continues more quickly. A depth of 2,100 feet has been reached.

6. Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia and Iraq nomads.

Bedouins report that Ibn Musa'ad, the Governor of Hail, has left for the frontier district near Hazoul (Hazil on million sheets) to enquire into the latest developments in the quarrel between the Dahamsha division and the alJabal division of the Amarat group of the Anaza. Briefly the Dahamsha claim autonomy, while the Amarat (Al Jabal) chieftain claims paramountcy.

The ancient quarrel between the two divisions and their leading families, the Mijlad and the al Hadhal, has recently flared up once more.

According to an unconfirmed Bedouin report Ibn Saud has instructed his Governor to tell Ibn Mijlad that he is not to recross into Iraq until he, Ibn Saud, has referred to the Iraq Government, and obtained a guarantee of protection for him from them. Ibn Hadhal is camped at this time of year in the Wudian Area, the maze of tributary Wadis descending Eastwards from the Jebel Anaza, near the Saudi Iraq frontier.

- 2 -

on the 7th from Basra by car and returned on the 15th.

Ash-Sharif Shahin bin Muhsin and his son, Saudi Arabian subjects, arrived on the 14th. They come from Medina, and have stayed in Egypt, in Transjordan with the Emir Abdulla, and in Iraq as guest of King Ghazi. They are accompanied by Seif bin Nasr, a Sharif formerly in the entourage of the late King Ali of the Hejaz, now in Iraq.

On the 5th Nasr bin Jasim bin Thani of Qatr passed through Kuwait on his way to Bagdad, for medical treatment. He was travelling on a Saudi Arabia Certificate issued in al Hasa.

5. Local Interests.

Oil.

The difficulty found in boring the well of the Kuwait Oil Company at Burgan, south of Kuwait, owing to fissures, with consequent loss of mud circulation, has been overcome, and boring now continues more quickly. A depth of 2,100 feet has been reached.

6. Saudi Arabia.

Saudi Arabia and Iraq nomads.

Bedouins report that Ibn Musa'ad, the Governor of Hail, has left for the frontier district near Hazzal (Hazil on million sheets) to enquire into the latest developments in the quarrel between the Dahamsha division and the alJasal division of the Amarat group of the Aneza. Briefly the Dahamsha claim autonomy, while the Amarat (Al Jasal) chieftain claims paramountcy.

The ancient quarrel between the two divisions and their leading families, the Mijlad and the al Haddal, has recently flared up once more.

According to an unconfirmed bedouin report Ibn Saud has instructed his Governor to tell Ibn Mijlad that he is not to trespass into Iraq, until he, Ibn Saud, has referred to the Iraq Government, and obtained a guarantee of protection for him from them. Ibn Haddal is camped at this time of year in the Wudian Area, the mass of tributary Wadis descending Eastwards from the Jebel Aneza, near the Saudi Iraq frontier.

552
555

- 3 -

7.Meteorological.

(a) Maximum Temperature 67.F

Minimum Temperature 47.F

(b)Rainfall.

The average rainfall of Kuwait is assessed at 4 inches. The rainfall this winter in Kuwait town, up to 15th January has been:-

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| During | November | 1.70 |
| " | December | --- |
| " | January | 1.39 |
| | Total | 3.09 |

Heavier rain than this has fallen west and south of the town. As the second half of January and the month of February are usually the rainiest time of the year it seems certain that Kuwait will now receive far above the average amount.

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
16th January, 1938.

---

Distribution As usual.

Secret.

No.17 of 1937

Koweit Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th December to 31st December, 1937.

---

141. Royal Navy.

Nil.

142. Shipping.

Nil.

143. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 19th and 20th.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 21st and 29th.

Information was received from the Area Manager of the Imperial Airways at Baghdad, that the Imperial Airways services calling at Koweit would cease to do so from the 19th January, as the "E" class aircraft are not ready. (This amendment to the service was cancelled on the 4th January 1938, and the service as far as is now known will continue to call).

144. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil

(b) Others.

Izzat Effendi Ja'far, Private Secretary and A.D.C. to His Highness the Ruler of Koweit arrived from Basra on the 17th, accompanied by a Cinematographer Mr.Anis Khedi Elias.

Abdulla, Abdul Karim and Abdul Majid, sons of the late Sheikh Khazal of Mohammerah arrived from Basra on the 21st by car and returned on the 23rd.

A Shammar Jarbu Sheikh, aged 18, Humaid bin Talog bin Farhan bin Safuq, with a small personal following, from the Jazirat ash Shammar near Mosul, arrived by camel on

Secret.

No.17 of 1937

Koweit Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th December to 31st December, 1937.

141. Royal Navy.

Nil.

142. Shipping.

Nil.

143. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 19th and 20th.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 21st and 29th.

Information was received from the Area Manager of the Imperial Airways at Baghdad, that the Imperial Airways services calling at Koweit would cease to do so from the 19th January, as the "E" class aircraft are not ready. (This amendment to the service was cancelled on the 4th January 1938, and the service as far as is now known will continue to call).

144. Movements.

(a) Official.

Nil

(b) Others.

Izzat Effendi Ja'far, Private Secretary and A.D.C. to His Highness the Ruler of Koweit arrived from Basra on the 17th, accompanied by a Cinematographer Mr.Anis Khedi Elias.

Abdulla, Abdul Karim and Abdul Majid, sons of the late Sheikh Khazal of Mohammerah arrived from Basra on the 21st by car and returned on the 23rd.

A Shammar Jarbu Sheikh, aged 18, Humaid bin Talog bin Farhan bin Safug, with a small personal following, from the Jazirat ash Shammar near Mosul, arrived by camel on

- 2 -

the 24th December.

He is according to his own account merely doing the "Grand Tour" - as is not unusual among young Shaikhs.

Mr. and Mrs. G.M.Mitchell of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company Ltd., Abadan arrived here by the down Slow Mail on the 25th on a short visit.

145. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Pilgrimage.

(1) The Pilgrimage by camel.

Pilgrims began to leave Koweit for the Tabriz or collecting point, which is this year fixed at Jahara village at the west end of the Koweit Bay, on the 25th December. So far about 380 persons have left the Gates of the town. There are others joining at Jahara from the nomad camps.

An inspection of the departing "Hajj" showed many more litters this year than last. The increase in the number of women is attributable to the continued high state of security on the Pilgrim road.

(2) The pilgrimage by the Saudi Monopoly Car Company.

The cost of the pilgrimage by motor bus from Koweit to Mecca, with excursion to Medina, and return to Koweit, all taxes and the guide's fees paid, is this year advertised by the Saudi Arab Government (Nejd Car Directorate office) at Nineteen English gold guineas thirty four and a half piastres, or 430 Rupees.

By private motor car the same tour, it is advertised, will cost each person only Thirty English gold guineas eighty nine and a half piastres, or 691 Rupees.

Each traveller is allowed 20 Kilos personal baggage. Agents are named as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| In Koweit | Abdulla bin Ahmed an Nafisi. |
| In Bahrain | Yusif Ali Akbar. |
| In Hasa | Abdulla al Qadhi. |

Departure of tours take place on the 6th, 16th and 23rd of January.

(b) Tribal Movements.

Every winter a certain number of the Awazim tribe come to Koweit territory. This year almost the whole tribe has been permitted by Ibn Saud to graze in Koweit territory, owing to poor rainfall in their own "dira", south of the Koweit-Saudi Neutral Zone. Implicit in this permission is leave to restock in Koweit market.

Some 2000 of their tents are in the area between the Zor ridge and the Shiggat al Jelib. Towards this area the Muntafiq, Hugra donkey sections, from Iraq are moving, and therefore the area North and West of Koweit Bay will be unusually closely inhabited by nomads this winter. Fortunately heavy rain in the autumn has left many Khabra pools which should, with the ordinary wells, be sufficient for them all, until they return to their own diras in the summer. A few of the Bani Khalid from Saudi Arabia are already in Southern Koweit.

145. Iraq.

(a) Numerous articles, all inaccurate, and many without even a basis in truth, purporting to describe events in the Persian Gulf, have been appearing in the Iraqi Press.

Hitherto such articles have been occasional. In the last few weeks only they have been frequent. Most of them have appeared in al Bilad, a Baghdad newspaper.

Some of the writers of these articles refer to the Persian Gulf as the Gulf of Basra, and their general trend is to herald political changes and the loosening of existing ties in the Gulf.

(b) The weekly newspaper as Sijil of Basra published the first part of a long poem by a blind beggar of Koweit called Sagar Adh Dharir, calling for action against

- 5 -

Departure of tours take place on the 6th, 16th and 23rd of January.

(b) Tribal Movements.

Every winter a certain number of the Awazim tribe come to Koweit territory. This year almost the whole tribe has been permitted by Ibn Saud to graze in Koweit territory, owing to poor rainfall in their own "dira", south of the Koweit-Saudi Neutral Zone. Implicit in this permission is leave to restock in Koweit market.

Some 2000 of their tents are in the area between the Zor ridge and the Shiggat al Jelib. Towards this area the Muntafiq, Hugra donkey sections, from Iraq are moving, and therefore the area North and West of Koweit Bay will be unusually closely inhabited by nomads this winter. Fortunately heavy rain in the autumn has left many Khabra pools which should, with the ordinary wells, be sufficient for them all, until they return to their own diras in the summer. A few of the Bani Khalid from Saudi Arabia are already in Southern Koweit.

145. Iraq.

(a) Numerous articles, all inaccurate, and many without even a basis in truth, purporting to describe events in the Persian Gulf, have been appearing in the Iraqi Press.

Hitherto such articles have been occasional. In the last few weeks only they have been frequent. Most of them have appeared in el Bilad, a Baghdad newspaper.

Some of the writers of these articles refer to the Persian Gulf as the Gulf of Basra, and their general trend is to herald political changes and the loosening of existing ties in the Gulf.

(b) The weekly newspaper as Sijil of Basra published the first part of a long poem by a blind beggar of Koweit called Saqar Adh Dharir, calling for action against

the Jews in Palestine. If some allowance is made for the difficulties of poets his choice of words is not objectionable, although he does at one point refer to the "enemy" (presumably British) as being too numerous for Arab success against the Jews, quoting the well known literary allusion "Katharat Adh Dhiba Ala Karash." It is understood that he was paid Rupees fifty for the poem.

(c) As Sijil newspaper of Basra published on the 24th December an attack on the Saudi Arab Government by K.S.A., which are the initials of Khalid Sulaiman al Atsani, a Koweiti.

Khalid's articles, in support of a scheme in favour with as Sijil, call for a conference at Mecca on matters affecting all Islam, and attacks Ibn Saud for refusing to permit one, and for refusing to protest to the British against their action in Palestine, or send his armies to fight them. He quotes with disgust some counsels of moderation by Hafiz Wahba, the Saudi Arab Minister in London (and his former master) given out during the Minister's visit to Koweit in the autumn.

The writer is the son of the former Municipal Director of Koweit, and is a partner in minor contract work. He writes moderately well, but is not a person of much standing in Koweit. He was educated in Baghdad.

147. Egypt.

(a) An Egyptian weekly paper called al Mirabat al Arabiya is specializing in articles calculated to undermine Britain's repute in Arabia proper and on its seaboard.

The administration or representation in Aden, Hadhramaut and the Gulf have all been lengthily and repeatedly attacked in recent issues.

Hadhramaut is likened to Palestine, where another fearful revolt is breaking out - so the paper says. Surprising changes are forecasted in the Persian Gulf.

- 4 -

the Jews in Palestine. If some allowance is made for the difficulties of poets his choice of words is not objectionable, although he does at one point refer to the "enemy" (presumably British) as being too numerous for Arab success against the Jews, quoting the well known literary allusion "Kattharat Adh Dhiba Ala Karesh." It is understood that he was paid Rupees fifty for the poem.

(c) An Sijjil newspaper of Basra published on the 24th December an attack on the Saudi Arab Government by K.S.A., which are the initials of Khalid Sulaiman al Adsani, a Koweiti.

Khalid's articles, in support of a scheme in favour with as Sijjil, call for a conference at Mecca on matters affecting all Islam, and attacks Ibn Saud for refusing to permit one, and for refusing to protest to the British against their action to Palestine, or send his armies to fight them. He quotes with disgust some counsels of moderation by Hafiz Wahba, the Saudi Arab Minister in London (and his former master) given out during the Minister's visit to Koweit in the autumn.

The writer is the son of the former Municipal Director of Koweit, and is a partner in minor contract work. He writes moderately well, but is not a person of much standing in Koweit. He was educated in Baghdad.

147. Egypt.

(e) An Egyptian weekly paper called al Mirsad al Arabiya is specialising in articles calculated to undermine Britain's repute in Arabia proper and on its seaboard.

The administration or representation in Aden, Hadhramaut and the Gulf have all been lengthily and repeatedly attacked in recent issues.

Hadhramaut is likened to Palestine, where another fearful revolt is breaking out - so the paper says. Surprising changes are forecasted in the Persian Gulf.

Arab readers might well suppose, after a course of this paper, that Britains sun is setting quickly - not in a blaze of glory, but into a particularly dirty night.

Remarks by intelligent literate Arabs in Koweit show that, contrary to the effect on Arab speaking townsmen outside Arabia proper, this sort of thing is largely disregarded; nevertheless it does have some effect, and should not be underestimated.

Special rates are quoted on the cover of the paper for Hadhramaut and Singapore, and the Editor is obviously anxious to appeal to readers abroad. Several free copies have been received in Koweit.

The Editor is the rather well known writer, Amin Saied, and the office is in 22 Sharia An Nowab, Cairo. The paper is advertised as having entered its second year of publication.

148. Agency motor dhow.

The new Agency boat was launched on the 22nd December. It is hoped that it will be possible to complete it early in the New Year.

Uninvited, some of the local notables kindly sent for the negro band, and stood coffee to the crowd which assembled for the launching.

149. Local Interests.

(1) Taking stock of the state of general relations at the end of the year, a year during which there has been trouble in some neighbouring countries, and from some of which there has been issued a stream of anti-British newspaper propaganda, it is remarkable how excellent relations remain.

(2) Case of a slave.

A female "slave" sought refuge at the Agency on the 15th December. She is enceinte - but by whom there is some doubt. If decision is reached on that

Arab readers might well suppose, after a course of this paper, that Britains sun is setting quickly - not in a blaze of glory, but into a particularly dirty night.

Remarks by intelligent literate Arabs in Koweit show that, contrary to the effect on Arab speaking townsmen outside Arabia proper, this sort of thing is largely disregarded; nevertheless it does have some effect, and should not be underestimated.

Special rates are quoted on the cover of the paper for Hadhramaut and Singapore, and the Editor is obviously anxious to appeal to readers abroad. Several free copies have been received in Koweit.

The Editor is the rather well known writer, Amin Saied, and the office is in 22 Sharia An Nowab, Cairo. The paper is advertised as having entered its second year of publication.

148. Agency motor dhow.

The new Agency boat was launched on the 22nd December. It is hoped that it will be possible to complete it early in the New Year.

Uninvited, some of the local notables kindly sent for the negro band, and stood coffee to the crowd which assembled for the launching.

149. Local Interests.

(1) Taking stock of the state of general relations at the end of the year, a year during which there has been trouble in some neighbouring countries, and from some of which there has been issued a stream of anti-British newspaper propaganda, it is remarkable how excellent relations remain.

(2) Case of a slave.

A female "slave" sought refuge at the Agency on the 15th December. She is enceinte - but by whom there is some doubt. If decision is reached on that

point she will become free by Moslem Law and if not she will be freed by the Ruler. It seems that she has already had a very free career.

(3) Dusman Palace Cinema.

His Highness the Ruler, who has for some time been toying with the idea of bringing a full size "Talky" Cinema, to replace his old smaller silent machine, for private use in his Palace did so at the end of the year. On the 29th December, before the first performance, to which he had kindly asked Europeans and Americans, the whole affair caught fire, and including valuable films, was completely destroyed. The operator, an Iraqi, is in hospital with severe burns. Several servants were slightly hurt while preventing the fire from spreading to the whole Palace, which it very nearly did. Insurance had not been effected.

150. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum Temperature | 70.F. |
| Minimum Temperature | 44.F. |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Koweit.

Political Agency, Koweit.
The 31st December, 1937.

Distribution As Usual.

- 6 -

point she will become free by Moslem law and if not she will be freed by the Ruler. It seems that she has already had a very free career.

(3) Dusman Palace Cinema.

His Highness the Ruler, who has for some time been toying with the idea of bringing a full size "Talky" Cinema, to replace his old small silent machine, for private use in his Palace did so at the end of the year. On the 29th December, before the first performance, to which he had kindly asked European and Americans, the whole affair caught fire, and including valuable films, was completely destroyed. The operator, an Iraqi, is in hospital with severe burns. Several servants were slightly hurt while preventing the fire from spreading to the whole Palace, which it very nearly did. Insurance had not been effected.

150. Meteorological.

Maximum Temperature 70.F.

Minimum Temperature 44.F.

(Sgd) G.S.de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Koweit.

Political Agency, Koweit.

The 31st December, 1937.

Distribution As Usual.

Secret.

No.16 of 1937.



Koweit Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st December to 15th December, 1937.

---

134. Royal Navy.

Nil.

135. Shipping.

S.S.Akagisan Maru (Mitsui Line) arrived on the 8th and discharged 10,000 paper bags of cement.

136. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 5th and 12th.

Eastbound planes arrived here on the 6th and 13th.

(c) The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Geologists G.M.Shaw and T.M.W.Strong arrived here on the 14th and returned on the same day to Abadan.

137. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr.T.R.Shaw, Vice-Consul, Bushire arrived here on Commercial Tour by B.I.S.N.Co's Slow Mail S.S.Bamora on the 8th and left for Basra by car on the 11th.

(b) Others.

Mr.J.W.Beardbell, teacher in the American School, arrived from Basra on the 3rd by car.

Several members of the family of the late Sir Sheikh Khazal, formerly Sheikh of Mohammerah, together with the lawyer Khan Bahadur Mirza Mohammed Ahmed, arrived on the 3rd and left for Basra on the 8th. The object of their visit was to take stock of the property of the late Sheikh Khazal with a view to its eventual distribution.

Miss F.J.Barny

Secret. - 6 -

No.16 of 1937.

Koweit Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st December to 15th December, 1937.

134. Royal Navy.

Nil.

135. Shipping.

S.S.Akagisan Maru (Mitsui Line) arrived on the 8th and discharged 10,000 paper bags of cement.

136. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 5th and 12th.

Eastbound planes arrived here on the 6th and 13th.

(c) The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Geologists C.M.Shaw and T.W.T.Strong arrived here on the 14th and returned on the same day to Abadan.

137. Movements.

(a) Official.

Mr.T.R.Shaw, Vice-Consul, Bushire arrived here on Commercial Tour by B.I.S.N.Co's Slow Mail S.S.Bamora on the 8th and left for Basra by car on the 11th.

(b) Others.

Mr.J.W.Beardsell, teacher in the American School, arrived from Basra on the 3rd by car.

Several members of the family of the late Sir Sheikh Khazal, formerly Sheikh of Mohammerah, together with the lawyer Khan Bahadur Mirza Mohammad Ahmad, arrived on the 3rd and left for Basra on the 8th. The object of their visit was to take stock of the property of the late Sheikh Khazal with a view to its eventual distribution.

Miss F.J.Barny

Miss F.J.Barny left for Bahrain by Imperial Airways on the 6th.

Captain F.J.Mc Whinnie of the Iraq Levies arrived by car on the 7th and returned to Basra on the 9th.

Messrs. G.M.Shaw and T.M.W.Strong Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's Geologists left for Basra by car on the 15th.

138. Koweit Oil Company.

Boring at Burgan has stopped at near 1000 feet, owing to fissures which require special filling treatment; before boring can continue.

139. Local Interests.

P.Davidoff, the representative of Duncan and Rodevey and the Hudson Bag Company, fur brokers, has arrived in Koweit to buy lambskins. He hopes to take a 100,000 which is all that is available.

Two other merchants are shortly expected from Baghdad. It is anticipated that the price of lambskins will rise this year as a result of competition. The average is likely to be about Rs.7/-.

140. Meteorological.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 74.F |
| Minimum temperature | 46.F |

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Koweit.
The 16th December, 1937.

Distribution As Usual.

-2-

Miss F.J.Barny left for Bahrain by Imperial Airways on the 6th.

Captain F.J.Mc Whinnie of the Iraq Levies arrived by car on the 7th and returned to Basra on the 9th.

Messrs. G.M.Shaw and T.M.W.Strong Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's Geologists left for Basra by car on the 15th.

138. Kowait Oil Company.

Boring at Burgan has stopped at near 1000 feet, owing to fissures which require special filling treatment; before boring can continue.

139. Local Interests.

F.Davidoff, the representative of Duncan and Rodevey and the Hudson Bag Company, fur brokers, has arrived in Koweit to buy lambskins. He hopes to take a 100,000 which is all that is available.

Two other merchants are shortly expected from Baghdad. It is anticipated that the price of lambskins will rise this year as a result of competition. The average is likely to be about Rs.7/-.

140. Meteorological.

Maximum temperature 74.F

Minimum temperature 46.F

(Sgd.) G.S. de Gaury

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Koweit.

The 16th December, 1937.

Distribution As Usual.

Secret



No. 15 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary,

for the period from 16th November to 30th November, 1937.

---

126.Royal Navy.

Nil.

127.Shipping.

M.V."Djambi" of the Silver Java Pacific Line arrive-ed from Java on the 24th and discharged 380 bags of coffee.

128.Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Two R.A.F.Aircrafts arrived on the 17th and 30th and left on the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 24th and 28th. The one due here on the 20th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 22nd and 29th.

(c) The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Mr.Rasmussen and Mr.and Mrs. Lane as passengers arrived here on the 21st and left with Mr.Rasmussen the same day. She returned on the 23rd and left the same evening with Mr. and Mrs. Lane.

Another Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived on the 30th with Mr.E.J.White and left for Abadan the same evening.

129.Movements.

(a) Official.

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, K.C.I.E., C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf passed through Koweit by the Eastbound aeroplane on the 22nd enroute for Bahrain.



(b) Flight Lieutenant P.Domvile, M.B.E., Air Staff Iraq Command, and Flying Officer Johnstone paid a visit, the former arriving by service aircraft on the 17th and

both returning to Iraq on the 20th by road.

Mr.J.C.Satterthwaite, First Secretary to the American Legation, Baghdad, arrived from Iraq on the 20th and returned on the following day.

His Highness the Right Honourable Aga Sultan Sir Mohammed Shah, the Agha Khan, P.C., G.C.S.I., etc, etc passed through Koweit by Imperial Airways on the 22nd, enroute to India.

Dr.Stagg, of the Air Ministry Meteorological service, arrived from Iraq by air on the 30th November, and left on the 1st December, also by service aircraft.

Mr.J.H.White, Geologist Anglo-Iranian Oil Company arrived on the 30th in an Anglo-Iranian Oil Company aircraft, for inspection of cores, and returned on the same evening.

130. Saudi Arabia.

(a) The Court is preparing to leave Riyadh before the holiday at the end of Ramdhan (3rd to 5th December) for the Hejaz.

(b) Visit of Colonel and Mrs.Dickson.

Reference para 116(e) of Summary No.15 of 1937.

The Arabic Newspapers of the Middle East have been busy inventing Colonel Dickson's reasons for visiting Riyadh.

The Rome Wireless also mentioned the visit on the 17th.

Some accounts called him "the Adviser to the the Ruler of Koweit". His Highness took this up and ordered a scribe in his entourage, one Mohammed Jaafar, to write to all the Arabic papers in the Middle East to deny that Colonel Dickson "or any one among the foreigners is employed as his Adviser".

Al Mukattam of Egypt in publishing Mohammed Jaafar's letter, added "We culled this news from the Italian Stevani Agency and it was also broadcasted. It is not Al Mukattam's own news"

Mukattam's own news".

(c) Reference para 116 (d) of Summary No. 13 of 1937.

The messenger sent by His Highness to Transjordan to bring back the young Mutairi chief Mukharib bin Duwish who had left Saudi Arabia, returned without him.

Mukharib sent a reply to say that he had only left his "Father", Ibn Saud, in order to see the world and obtain honours. Both of these he said he now had his hand on, but he threw out a hint that if it was worth his while financially he would return to Koweit and Nejd. His monthly bounty had not been enough for him here. The messenger told the Ruller that Mukharib now rides everywhere with the Officer Commanding Frontier Patrols who is paying him very well.

The Transjordan Desert Police appears to be using NE Nejd and Koweit as a recruiting field. The young Sheikh Mutlaq ad Duwish, cousin of Mukharib, has now also received verbal encouragement to go to Transjordan, a "Damira" (Zouave coat) and compliments in a letter from the British officer of the Police whom he has never met.

Some indignation has been caused locally, and, it is rumoured, to Ibn Saud also. His Highness the Shaikh is endeavouring to dissuade any more of the young Shaikhs from going to "join up", although the pay and presents offered are attractive to them.

(d) Rumours.

It is understood, from various quarters, that there still are, as there have been at times in the last eighteen months, rumours, afterwards maliciously exaggerated, that the Saudi Arabian tribes have invaded or were about to enter neighbouring territories.

in Summary No.13 of 1936 para 126 (a) and (c) and other Summaries.

According to information in Koweit it seems clear that the King has no intention of allowing his tribes to invade Transjordan, nor can or will they ~~will~~ do so without his sanction and aid. However in view of all these frequent stories it may be worth while pointing out that in addition to his annual gathering of the Shaikhs and leading clansmen in the summer at Riyadh, which annually gives rise to unfounded rumours of "mobilization", His Majesty, according to local information frequently sees fit, when approached by tribesmen, for permission to raid or go to war, to put them off "until after ............" and there follows whatever then approaching event or period seems inconvenient for fighting, e.g. after the summer heat, after the fasting month of Ramadhan, or after the Pilgrimage to Mecca. This has always rightly been assumed here to be obviously and merely His Majesty's politic way of putting off some of his more importunate subjects,--- who very likely know that that will be His Majesty's reply, but get the Kudos of having shown courage, and gainsaid the scathing Ninth Chapter of the Koran, about which the desert Arabs are always very touchy. Filtering out of Arabia these sort of replies by the King to some of his subjects are apparently seized upon in certain quarters, as a sure indication of hostile intentions, whereas in fact it is the exact opposite.

(e) Reference Para 116 (d) of Summary No.13 of 1937.

The messenger taking a letter of thanks and a present of hawks from the Ruler, returned from Riyadh on the 18th at 10-30 A.M. having left the Capital at mid-day on the 17th. It is now possible and usual to complete the journey Koweit-Riyadh in less than 24 hours

total time -

total time, of which about 15 hours are "running time". The halt for the night may of course be anywhere in the open desert, but in the winter one of the Dahals (rock caverns) just North of the Dahana Sands, having water in them and being about half way, make a convenient stopping place.

131. Pilgrimage.

Although His Highness, who was invited by the King, is not intending to go to the Pilgrimage, a particularly large number of Koweitis are planning to go this year. This is partly due to accounts of the quickness of the journey from Koweit, now that the track has, by use, become well marked. At the same time camel parties also seem likely to be large - perhaps as a result of the King's invitation to the Shaikh, with its suggestion that Koweit and Koweitis are in favour.

132. Local Interests.

Water Supply.

Cheap cement from Japan and two years of good rain have encouraged the conservation of rain water in reservoirs. H,s Highness and a rich merchant, Yusif Murzook, have given a lead, and both are now independent of water from Fao or elsewhere, until next winter. Others are following their example, and the Municipality is considering a plan for enlarging the existing reservoirs made in the last two years.

133. Meteorological.

After three increasingly humid and sultry days a violent and sudden wind storm from the North West struck Koweit on the night of the 15th at 9-30 P.M. Accompanied by almost continuous lightning it continued until 10-20 P.M. ending in a downpour of rain.

Surprisingly no ships or men were lost, only some camels and sheep. Since then there have been several other rainstorms of less violence, making an exceptional year

in respect of early rainfall and promise of grazing.

| | |
|---|---|
| Maximum temperature | 78.F |
| Minimum temperature | 57.F |

(b) 1.37" of rain fell during the period under review.

(Sgd.) G. S. de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 30th November 1937.

Distribution As usual.

No.14 of 1937.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary
For the period from 1st November to 15th November, 1937.



**119. Royal Navy.**

His Majesty's Minister Tehran and Mrs.Seymour arrived in H.M.S.Shoreham (Captain Alan Poland D.S.O., Senior Naval officer in the Persian Gulf) on the 3rd, and left for Basra the same evening owing to the indisposition of the Minister.

His Highness paid a call on the Minister at the Agency, which was returned at the Dusman Palace.

**120. Shipping.**

15-11-37. S.S.Shangai Maru (Japenese Yamashita-Line) ex Japan arrived on the 15th and left the same day. She discharged 29 bales of piece goods, 89 packages general goods, and 50 cases soap.

**121. Aviation.**

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound aeroplanes landed here on the 7th and 14th November.

Eastbound aeroplanes landed here on the 8th and 15th November.

**122. Movements.**

Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait visited the Northern territory of Kuwait on the 10th, returning the same day.

Lt-Colonel J.J.Rooney, I.M.S., Chief Quarantine officer, arrived from Bushire on the 9th, and left on the 11th by road for Basra.

Air-Vice-Marshal C.L.Courtney, CB,CBE,DSO.,Air

No. 14 of 1937.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary
For the period from 1st November to 15th November, 1937.



119. Royal Navy.

His Majesty's Minister Tehran and Mrs. Seymour arrived in H.M.S. Shoreham (Captain Alan Poland D.S.O., Senior Naval officer in the Persian Gulf) on the 3rd, and left for Basra the same evening owing to the indisposition of the Minister.

His Highness paid a call on the Minister at the Agency, which was returned at the Dasman Palace.

120. Shipping.

| | |
|---|---|
| 15-11-37. | S.S. Shangai Maru (Japanese Yamashita-Line) ex Japan arrived on the 15th and left the same day. She discharged 29 bales of piece goods, 89 packages general goods, and 50 cases soap. |

121. Aviation.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound aeroplanes landed here on the 7th and 14th November.

Eastbound aeroplanes landed here on the 8th and 15th November.

122. Movements.

Captain G.S. de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait visited the Northern territory of Kuwait on the 10th, returning the same day.

Lt-Colonel J.J. Rooney, I.M.S., Chief Quarantine officer, arrived from Bushire on the 9th, and left on the 11th by road for Basra.

Air-Vice-Marshal C.L. Courtney, CB, CBE, DSO., Air

Officer Commanding the Iraq Command, arrived by sea craft on the 10th and left on the 11th in his personal Aircraft for Baghdad.

123. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Shaikh Yusif Yassin, Chief of the Secretariat of the King of Saudi Arabia, arrived from Basra after dark on the 11th and left before the dawn of the next day for Riyadh. He visited the Political Agent.

The Shaikh was met by a party of the Royal retainers led by Abdul Aziz al Rubai, who had brought with him a seven seater Packard car as a present from his King to the Ruler. His Majesty sent with it a pleasantly jocular letter, in which he also renewed his invitation, made in 1936, to the Ruler to visit him, and perform the Pilgrimage (in February) with him.

His Highness informed the Political Agent that he was most/unlikely to accept. On the 14th he despatched fourteen hawks to Ibn Saud and a letter of thanks for the car.

(b) Other arrivals from Saudi Arabia were, from Artawiya, Muhammad bin Hattab ad Duwish, of the Mutair Ruling clan; from Jarya al Ilya Hamad bin Abdul Aziz ash Shugair, of the same clan; and members of the family of Mutlaq ad Duwish, who now lives in Koweit, from their camp beyond Jarya al Ilya.

The first two are "distinguished visitors", making a call on His Highness.

124. Iraq.

(a) Smuggling of the Dead.

The Town Lieutenant sentenced to seven months imprisonment and a fine, a merchant called Yusif Behaibahani, a Koweiti of Persian origin, who had been engaged in ferrying Shiah Iranian corpses, via Koweit, to the Iraq

shore.

-2-

Officer Commanding the Iraq Command, arrived by sea craft on the 10th and left on the 11th in his personal Aircraft for Baghdad.

123. Saudi Arabia.

(a) Shaikh Yusif Yassin, Chief of the Secretariat of the King of Saudi Arabia, arrived from Basra after dark on the 11th and left before the dawn of the next day for Riyadh. He visited the Political Agent.

The Shaikh was met by a party of the Royal retainers led by Abdul Aziz al Rubai, who had brought with him a seven seater Packard car as a present from his King to the Ruler. His Majesty sent with it a pleasantly jocular letter, in which he also renewed his invitation, made in 1936, to the Ruler to visit him, and perform the Pilgrimage (in February) with him.

His Highness informed the Political Agent that he was most/unlikely to accept. On the 14th he despatched fourteen hawks to Ibn Saud and a letter of thanks for the car.

(b) Other arrivals from Saudi Arabia were, from Artawiya, Muhammad bin Hattab ad Duwish, of the Mutair Ruling clan; from Jarya al Ilya Hamad bin Abdul Aziz ash Shugair, of the same clan; and members of the family of Mutlaq ad Duwish, who now lives in Kowait, from their camp beyond Jarya al Ilya.

The first two are "distinguished visitors", making a call on His Highness.

124. Iraq.

(a) Smuggling of the Dead.

The Town Lieutenant sentenced to seven months imprisonment and a fine, a merchant called Yusif Behbehani, a Kowaiti of Persian origin, who had been engaged in ferrying Shiah Iranian corpses, via Kowait, to the Iraq shore.

-3-

shore. The charge was false pretences, falsely declaring the bodies as those of Koweitis. On the Ruler's orders the imprisonment and fine were in the end cancelled, and the man has now to return the bodies and the money taken for the last batch, to the relatives.

He only charged one Dinar (£.1) and the last batch, still in a dhow off the Koweit coast, was no less than one hundred and thirteen. It is said that Behaibahani's men dropped many of the bodies in the sea, but other regarded his trade as an honourable one, a great relief to the religiously minded, whose desire to be buried in the Holy Earth of Nejef or Kerbla, had been defeated by recent Iranian regulations.

125. Meteorological.

(a) .30" of rain fell during the period under review.

(b) Maximum temperature ... ... 85.F

Minimum temperature ... ... 70.F

Sd. G.S.de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 16th Novemver, 1937.

-------

Distribution : As usual.

-------

-3-

shore. The charge was false pretences, falsely declaring the bodies as those of Kowettis. On the Ruler's orders the imprisonment and fine were in the end cancelled, and the man has now to return the bodies and the money taken for the last batch, to the relatives.

He only charged one Dinar (£.1) and the last batch, still in a dhow off the Koweit coast, was no less than one hundred and thirteen. It is said that Behabahani's men dropped many of the bodies in the sea, but other regarded his trade as an honourable one, a great relief to the religiously minded, whose desire to be buried in the Holy Earth of Nejef or Kerbla, had been defeated by recent Iranian regulations.

125. Meteorological.

(a) .30" of rain fell during the period under review.
(b) Maximum temperature ... ... 85.F
Minimum temperature ... ... 70.F

Sd. G.S.de Gaury.
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 16th Novemver, 1937.

--------

Distribution : As usual.

--------

No. 13 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th October to 31st October, 1937.

-----

110.ROYAL NAVY.

Reference para 102 of Summary No.12.

H.M.S.Enterprise left Kuwait for Abadan on the 20th October.

111.SHIPPING.

~~See appendix.~~ Nil.

112.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Group Captain Maxwell arrived by a Royal Air Force aircraft on the 18th October and embarked the next day on the S.S.Registan for Basra.

(b) Imperial Airways.

The East and Westbound planes called here on all due dates during the period under review.

113.ARRIVALS.

Nil.

114.LOCAL INTERESTS.

Ruling Family.

Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, uncle of the Ruler of Kuwait left for a visit to Iraq, reaching Baghdad on the 18th October, and returning to Kuwait on the 31st. His visit to Bagdad was mostly to see a dentist.

115.KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The Company's new bore at Burgan, operated from Maqwa camp, south of Kuwait, had reached 750 feet by the 27th October. The cementing in of 15-inch pipes had been completed by the end of the month.

116./

FILE COPY.



No. 15 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

for the period from 16th October to 31st October, 1937.

110. ROYAL NAVY.

Reference para 102 of Summary No. 12.

H.M.S. Enterprise left Kuwait for Abadan on the 20th October.

111. SHIPPING.

Nil.

112. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Group Captain Maxwell arrived by a Royal Air Force aircraft on the 18th October and embarked the next day on the S.S. Kenistan for Basra.

(b) Imperial Airways.

The East and Westbound planes called here on all due dates during the period under review.

113. ARRIVALS.

Nil.

114. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Ruling Family.

Shaikh Abdulla as Salim, uncle of the Ruler of Kuwait left for a visit to Iraq, reaching Baghdad on the 16th October, and returning to Kuwait on the 21st. His visit to Baghdad was mostly to see a dentist.

115. KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The Company's new bore at Burgan, operated from Magwa camp, south of Kuwait, had reached 750 feet by the 27th October. The cementing in of 13-inch pipes had been completed by the end of the month.

116./

571
574



116. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Arrivals.

Arrivals included, on the 16th, AGAL bin ROWWAF, cousin of the Saudi Arab Minister in Baghdad, SALAH bin JARBUA', SALAH bin FAHAD ar RASHOUDI, Sulaiman ibn Ruba'an and Abdul Aziz ibn Obaid, all notables of BURAIDA, in Qasim coming from Egypt and Palestine via Baghdad.

They changed dinars into riyals in such quantity that the rate of riyals rose several points, from 11½ riyals to a dinar (£.1) to 10. They exhausted the market at 100,000 riyals. This sum is understood to be the result of the sale of some seventeen herds of camels, of 80 camels each, in Egypt and Palestine. The party left for Qasim on the 20th October.

(b) Buraida.

Travellers arriving here from Buraida in Qasim report that attempts to "Westernize" Buraida have met with resistance; the local people, under the leadership of the well-known Buraida family of ar RASHOUDI, having refused to have anything to do with the schoolmasters and doctors recently sent them by the Government, or with the uniformed Saudi soldiers from the Hejaz.

In spite of the wishes of the Saudi Governor of Buraida, a cadet of the Royal family, Faisal bin TURKI, the schoolmasters and doctors have so far remained outside the town, boycotted and threatened, and the Hejazi soldiers are changing their trousers for shirts.

(c) The Royal Family.

A traveller from Riyadh reports he was present when two male negroes, employed as nurses in the Palace, were counting up the King's children.

The total, they said, is now "the same as the number of sects of the Moslems, that is seventy three".

(d) Mutair Shaikhly family.

Reference para 156(d) of 1936 and 88(b) of 1937.

MUKHAIRIB

MUKHAIRIB (FAISAL) bin WATBAN AD DUWISH, who left Saudi Arabia, after a dispute with the authorities, and came to Kuwait in 1936, where he was hospitably treated by the authorities but otherwise not encouraged, and later left for a visit to Captain Glubb in Transjordania, has now, according to travellers, been taken into the Transjordan forces and is already "in uniform".

His Highness has despatched a car and a messenger to Transjordan to bring him back if possible.

(e) Colonel Dickson's Visit to Riyadh.

Colonel H.R.P.Dickson, C.I.E., and Mrs.Dickson, left to visit the Court of His Majesty King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud on the 22nd October, and returned to Kuwait on the 30th. His Majesty's Legation, Jedda was informed of their departure.

Colonel and Mrs.Dickson were put up in the Badia Palace (they found on leaving it that they had had 39 persons in attendance). They visited or were visited by His Majesty and numerous members of the Royal family. Mrs.Dickson, who speaks Arabic and went dressed as a Bedouin woman, with her hair plaited was evidently a great success in the harems and with His Majesty.

They attended an ARTHA dance by 2500 men in the Palace square, which went on from 7 a.m. until noon, and which the King himself joined in towards the end.

Colonel Dickson is writing an account of his visit.

The main points which were noted down after hearing his first account were:-

(a) Route.

The road is with the exception of the Dahana sands, the descent from the ARMA plateau, and some patches near Jarya al 'Ilya, now "very good". As the return journey only took him 17 hours running time the track is evidently

573
(576)

- 4 -

evidently improving with use by cars. (No European had used the road since the writer of this report in 1935).

Mr. Philby's map-work is much criticized by Colonel Dickson, who is making out corrections.

(b) New Palace and "Government Office".

The very large new Palace, known as the SHAMSIYA, which quarter of the town it faces, 2 miles outside the walls of Riyadh on its Northern side, is now almost complete.

It is, according to Colonel Dickson, a magnificent building, two storeys high, and 250 yards long by 200 yards, fortified with 8 towers and in the Nejdi style, the outside as well as the inside decorated with Nejdi plaster-work. Every inch of the ceilings, doors and woodwork is painted in bright coloured Arab patterns, with the columns of its courtyards made of the shining white stone quarried in the neighbourhood, and with "every modern convenience", suitable drainage and space for a wireless station (in its south-eastern corner) arranged. Fifteen hundred workmen under a Riyadh architect are engaged upon this work.

(c) The King's Views on Palestine.

His Majesty gave his views on Palestine affairs to Colonel Dickson. They do not appear to differ from anything in general on the subject, that has been said to officials.

No doubt Colonel Dickson's report will convey His Majesty's remarks in detail. He spoke, it seems, much of the late Major General Sir Percy Cox, formerly Resident in the Persian Gulf, Chief Political Officer in Mesopotamia, with admiration for his wisdom, and advice to him on numerous occasions and mentioned other Officers of the Foreign & Political Service whom he had known and liked in the past now long gone.

He spoke too of his own end, and fear for the futu[re] of Arab relations with England afterwards; although, happily

happily, so Colonel Dickson said, he seems in the very best of health.

117. IRAQ.

The young Shaikh NAIF bin HAMOOD as SUWAIT, Shaikh of the Dhafir tribe in Iraq, arrived in Kuwait on the 19th October and left on the 24th.

118. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 98.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... 64.F.

[signature]
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-----

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 3rd November, 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

FO
DMI
Miss Cl.

No.12 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st October to 15th October, 1937.

-----

102.ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S."Enterprise" (Captain C.E.Morgan, D.S.O.) of the 4th Cruiser Squadron, East Indies, arrived here on the 14th October and is staying up to the 20th October.

Official calls were exchanged on the afternoon of the 14th October.

103.SHIPPING.

| | |
|---|---|
| 11.10.37. | S.S.Chile Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 145 cases general goods. |
| 13.10.37. | S.S.Uyo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 5000 paper bags cement, 300 cases vegetable oil, 200 cases tea and 46 packages general goods. |

104.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

During the period under review the land-machines of the main Eastbound and Westbound services of Imperial Airways were replaced by flying boats, which will not normally call at Kuwait.

The Duplicate Eastbound and Westbound services called here as usual during the period under report.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on the 30th September, with Mr.Pattinson, General Manager of the Company and Mrs.Pattinson, returning to take them back to Abadan on the 3rd October.

105.MOVEMENTS.

Nil.

106.

No.12 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st October to 15th October, 1937.

102. ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S. "Enterprise" (Captain C.E. Morgan, D.S.O.) of the 4th Cruiser Squadron, East Indies, arrived here on the 14th October and is staying up to the 20th October.

Official calls were exchanged on the afternoon of the 14th October.

103. SHIPPING.

11.10.37. S.S. Chile Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 145 cases general goods.

13.10.37. S.S. Uyo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 5000 paper bags cement, 300 cases vegetable oil, 200 cases tea and 46 packages general goods.

104. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

During the period under review the land-machines of the main Eastbound and Westbound services of Imperial Airways were replaced by flying boats, which will not normally be call at Kuwait.

The Duplicate Eastbound and Westbound services called here as usual during the period under report.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on the 30th September, with Mr.Pattinson, General Manager of the Company and Mrs.Pattinson, returning to take them back to Abadan on the 3rd October.

105. MOVEMENTS.

Nil.

106.

106.LOCAL INTERESTS.

Nil. See appendix.

107.SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Ibn Saud moved into camp at RAMAH wells (at the junction of the Hasa and Kuwait car tracks), on the 6th October. He proposes to stay there until the 1st November. Ramah is a usual camping ground for the King and his family at this time of year.

(b) The Trade Blockade.

An exception to the blockade has been made in the case of hawks.

Kuwaitis may now send hawks to Nejd paying duty of 30 % on entry.

(c) Raid.

On the 11th October, 8 camels belonging to Shaikh Ahmad as Subah, the Ruler, were raided from their grazing ground at ALU an NAIM in the DIBDIBBA, ten miles West of the SHAQQ. The raiders arrived at dusk and were unidentified.

The assumption by the local Bedouin is that as no Kuwaiti would dare to raid the Ruler's camels, the raiders must have come from across the frontier. (The WASM brand of Shaikh Ahmad is a three fingered comb (BIRTHIM) on the right foreleg, the fingers of the comb pointing forward).

(d) Arrivals from Saudi Arabia.

(i) Ajimi bin Suwait, Shaikh of the Dhafir arrived on the 5th October to place his brother, ROUMI, troubled with an old wound in the face, in hospital at Kuwait.

(ii) FARIS bin Lami, a Shaikh of the Mutair (JIBLAN Division) arrived on the 15th October from Transjordania. He has reported to Bedouin enquirers that all is quiet in Transjordan, and that there is no tribal movement whatever.

(This has usefully discounted the Radio news from Rome on the 12th, 13th and the 14th October, given out as

- 2 -

106. LOCAL INTERESTS.

Nil. See appendix.

107. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Ibn Saud moved into camp at HAMAH wells (at the junction of the Hasa and Kuwait car tracks). on the 6th October. He proposes to stay there until the 1st November. Hamah is a usual camping ground for the King and his family at this time of year.

(b) The Trade Blockade.

An exception to the blockade has been made in the case of hawks.

Kuwaitis may now send hawks to Nejd paying duty of 30 % on entry.

(c) Raid.

On the 11th October, 8 camels belonging to Shaikh Ahmad as Subah, the Ruler, were raided from their grazing ground at ALU an NAIM in the DIBDIBBA, ten miles West of the SHAQQ. The raiders arrived at dusk and were unidentified.

The assumption by the local Bedouin is that as no Kuwaiti would dare to raid the Ruler's camels, the raiders must have come from across the frontier. (The WASM brand of Shaikh Ahmad is a three fingered comb (BIRTHIM) on the right foreleg, the fingers of the comb pointing forward).

(d) Arrivals from Saudi Arabia.

(i) Ajlan bin Suwait, Shaikh of the Dhafir arrived on the 5th October to place his brother, ROUMI, troubled with an old wound in the face, in hospital at Kuwait.

(ii) FARIS bin Lami, a Shaikh of the Mutair (JIBLAN Division) arrived on the 15th October from Transjordania. He has reported to Bedouin enquirers that all is quiet in Transjordan, and that there is no tribal movement whatever.

(This has usefully discounted the Bari news from Rome on the 12th, 13th and the 14th October, given out as

as "from Cairo", that the Wahhabi army had advanced into Transjordan, and that Mr.Philby had been sent by the British Government to persuade Ibn Saud to restrain his men. On the 13th the "Transjordan army" was reported as defeated and in retreat before the Wahhabis).

108.IRAQ.

(a) Arrivals include Fahad bin Numair, an Agaili from Baghdad, who visited the Saudi Arabia frontier and returned on the 7th October.

(b) Reference para 99, Summary No.11 of 1937.

It is noticed that Ali al Janai, a Kuwait merchant, whose enterprises are not above suspicion, and some Iraqis believed to be smugglers, meet in the house of Bandar as Saadun, the Iraqi from the MUNTAFIQ, who has collected two or three Kuwaiti followers from among the rougher kind.

When he first came here he was given a guest house "for a night or two", by Shaikh Abdulla an Nafisi, the Saudi Arab Trade Agent. When the two or three nights turned into weeks he was at last removed by An Nafisi and has now a house of his own, until the pilgrims leave for Mecca (January) when, as he gives out, he will join them.

109.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 103.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 66.F.

[signature]

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency,Kuwait.

The 16th October, 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

- 3 -

as "From Cairo", that the Wahhabi army had advanced into Transjordan, and that Mr.Philby had been sent by the British Government to persuade Ibn Saud to restrain his men. On the 13th the "Transjordan army" was reported as defeated and in retreat before the Wahhabis).

108.IRAQ.

(a) Arrivals include Fahad bin Numair, an Agaili from Baghdad, who visited the Saudi Arabia frontier and returned on the 7th October.

(b) Reference para 99, Summary No.11 of 1937.

It is noticed that Ali el Janai, a Kuwait merchant, whose enterprises are not above suspicion, and some Iraqis believed to be smugglers, meet in the house of Bandar as Saadun, the Iraqi from the MUNTAFIQ, who has collected two or three Kuwaiti followers from among the rougher kind.

When he first came here he was given a guest house "for a night or two", by Shaikh Abdulla an Nafisi, the Saudi Arab Trade Agent. When the two or three nights turned into weeks he was at last removed by An Nafisi and has now a house of his own, until the pilgrims leave for Mecca (January) when, as he gives out, he will join them.

109.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 103.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 66.F.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency,Kuwait.

The 18th October, 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

APPENDIX.

AFTERNOTE.

106. LOCAL INTERESTS.

A raid by Iraq Police thirty miles into Kuwait territory took place on the afternoon of the 15th. The Police were in two cars, and at about 2 p.m. attacked, at IDAIRAT al KHULLAH (R.A.F.Sketch Map), a party of Iraqi tribesmen, three of whom were from MU'ALIN Section of the Dhafir, two of the Maloum Section of the Dhafir, nine of the Jowasim Section of the Dhafir, one a man of the Anaiza, and three of the Shammar tribe.

The tribesmen had all their camels, approximately sixty, taken by the Police and their casualties were one man seriously wounded, MUTIA' GHARAISAN of the Dhafir, who was removed by the Police, two men slightly wounded, and three missing.

The party had recently restocked at Kuwait, buying their goods from ALI al JANAI (See para 108 below) and his cousin Abdul Latif Musallim.

The goods, judging by fallen loads, examined on the scene, consisted mostly of coffee, sugar, tea, cigarette papers, Zahar beans (for poisoning fish and thus increasing catches) and matches.

-----

No. 11 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st August to 30th September 1937.

92. ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

93. SHIPPING.

5.8.37. S.S.Manju Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 193 packages of general goods.

25.8.37. S.S.Neuenfels (German - Hansa Line). Discharged 520 cases matches, 1 car and 85 packages general goods.

30.8.37. S.S.Hopecrest (Kerr Steamship Co. - American). Arrived from Java and discharged 280 bags of coffee.

9.9.37. S.S.Mantai Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 104 cases general goods.

24.9.37. S.S.Ryayo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 4000 paper bags of cement, 100 cases tea, 104 packages general goods and 200 cases vegetable oil.

94. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

One land-machine and two flying boats of the Royal Air Force from Basra visited Kuwait during the period under review.

(b) Imperial Airways.

All Westbound and Eastbound planes landed here on due dates during the period under review.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on the 21st August and returned to Abadan the same day.

95. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Officials.

(i) Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait, proceeded to Basra on the 12th August, whence he left by the Eastbound Imperial Airways aeroplane of the 15th August

15th August, for Karachi on recess.

Captain de Gaury returned to headquarters on the 30th September.

(ii) The Hon'ble Mr.O.K.Caroe, C.I.E., passed through Kuwait on the 15th August by Imperial Airways, en route for Bahrain, where he took over as Officiating Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

(iii)The Hon'ble Lt.-Colonel Sir Trenchard Fowle, KCIE., CBE., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, passed through Kuwait by the Westbound aeroplane of the 19th August, en route for the United Kingdom on leave.

(b) Others.

Copy to file

Reference para 77(iii), Summary No.9 of 1937.

Herr Lindt and his wife were on board the British India Steamer Bandra, which called here on the 30th August and left for Basra the same day. Herr Lindt came ashore and saw the Ruler, and stayed so long that he almost missed the steamer.

97.LOCAL INTERESTS.

The Kuwait pearling fleet returned from the pearling banks on the 30th September.

The pearl catch this year is reported to have been far superior, both in quantity as well as quality, to that of the last year.

98.SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Abdul Aziz ar Ruba'i, who was escorting to Syria, the EMIRA FAUZA bint Nawwaf ash Sha'alan, wife of the Emir Saud, arrived here on the 16th August and left on the 19th for Iraq en route for his destination. The party - in seven cars and lorries - consisted of 27 persons (including 8 women) 16 of whom only went as far as Basra.

Ar Ruba'i returned from Syria on the 27th and left for Saudi Arabia on the 29th August.

(b) Shaikh Hafidh Wahba, Saudi Arab Minister in London,

London, arrived from Baghdad by air accompanied by his son on the morning of 29th August, and left for Riyadh the same day, with Ar Ruba'i and party, (vide (a) above).

(c) Shaikhs Yusif Yasin and Hafidh Wahba, arrived here from Saudi Arabia on the 7th September and left by air for Baghdad on the 9th.

It is understood that Shaikh Hafidh Wahba proceeded from Baghdad to London to resume his duties there, and Shaikh Yusif Yasin to Syria, where he proposed spending some time before returning to Saudi Arabia.

(d) A messenger of as Sudairi, Governor of Jauf in the Wadi Sirhan, arrived here on the 15th September, via Basra, to make large purchases of camel saddlery and tentage for the troops in Jauf. The price of a saddle has in consequen-ce risen from Rs.13/- to Rs.22/-.

(e) Ibn Saud has given leave to all his subjects to sell sheep and camels to any Kuwaitis bearing the written permission of Shaikh Abdulla al Jabir, the Shaikh of Kuwait's Lieutenant in the Town of Kuwait. Several Kuwaitis have taken this permission and left for Saudi Arabia to make purchases. Ibn Saud's Export Customs ~~take~~ tax on sheep is 1 Riyal per head and on camels at 5 % of value. It is now clear that the Blockade only works one way, against trading from Kuwait to Saudi Arabia and not vice versa.

Copy to file

(f) The tax on the province of Hasa has been doubled this year (JIHAD MITHNI). It is understood that about 2 lakhs are expected from the Hasa Oasis and neighbourhood alone. The tax from Qatif, and other places in the province, will bring in about one more lakh.

(g) Visas for Kuwait.

It is reported by numerous travellers that the charge made by the Saudi Arab officials for a one year residence visa for Kuwait is 22½ Riyals, and for a single journey visa 1½ Riyals.

This has recently been imposed, and is in most

most cases collected by the Saudi Arab Government representative at the frontier village of Qaryat al Ilya.

No charge is made in Kuwait for Kuwaitis going to Saudi Arabia by the desert route.

99.IRAQ.

Bandar as Sa'adun, one of the ancient and distinguished Sa'adun family of Iraq, arrived here on the 13th August from Saudi Arabia, and has taken up his residence here.

When he visited the Agency he endeavoured to interest the Political Agent in a partition scheme for Iraq, under which the Basra Wilayat would come under British control. He alleged that most of the Sa'adun family would be in favour of this scheme, as well as many other tribal Shaikhs of the Wilayat. He was not encouraged.

100.PALESTINE.

His Highness has received letters from the late Mufti of Jerusalem about the activities of the committee in Syria for the support of the Palestine Arabs. He was asked to nominate a permanent representative to their conferences. (The Political Agent has communicated with the Political Resident on this subject).

101.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 115.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... 72.F.

Gerald de Gaury
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-----

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 7th October 1937.

-----

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.

5./

- 4 -

most cases collected by the Saudi Arab Government representative at the frontier village of Jaryat al Ilya.

No charge is made in Kuwait for Kuwaitis going to Saudi Arabia by the desert route.

99. IRAQ.

Nasser as Sa'adun, one of the ancient and distinguished Sa'adun family of Iraq, arrived here on the 12th August from Saudi Arabia, and has taken up his residence here.

When he visited the Agency he endeavoured to interest the Political Agent in a partition scheme for Iraq, under which the Basra Wilayat would come under British control. He alleged that most of the Sa'adun family would be in favour of this scheme, as well as many other tribal Shaikhs of the Wilayat. He was not encouraged.

100. PALESTINE.

His Highness has received letters from the late Mufti of Jerusalem about the activities of the committee in Syria for the support of the Palestine Arabs. He was asked to nominate a permanent representative to their conferences. (The Political Agent has communicated with the Political Resident on this subject).

101. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 110.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... 72.F.

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 7th October 1937.

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, India.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.

5./

5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O."3" W. General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, Iraq Command, Baghdad.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding 203 (F.B.) Squadron, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.
16. The British Agent, Mukalla.

-----

No. 10 of 1937.
Kuwait Intelligence Summary
For the period from 16th July to 31st July 1937.

-----

**83.ROYAL NAVY.**

Captain Allan Poland, D.S.O., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived on the 29th July in H.M.S. Shoreham and left on the 31st.

By previous arrangement official calls were dispensed with.

**84.SHIPPING.**

29.7.37. Jetsuyo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 75 casks cement, 200 cases vegetaline, 325 cases tea and 90 packages general cargo.

**85.AVIATION.**

(a) Royal Air Force.

No.4 Armoured Car Section of the 84 Squadron, R.A.F., Shaibah, arrived at Kuwait on the 24th July and returned to Iraq on the 27th July.

(b) Imperial Airways.

All Westbound and Eastbound planes landed here on due dates during the period under review.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Messrs: Gordon and Cook of the same company as passengers, arrived here on the 19th, and returned to take them back on the 20th.

**86.LOCAL INTERESTS.**

(a) Bank for Kuwait.

Mr.W.Hendry, Manager of the Basra branch of the Eastern Bank arrived here on the 23rd July. He had an audience of the Ruler on the 24th, when he was given a list of conditions required to be fulfilled by any Bank

No. 10 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th July to 31st July 1937.

---

83. ROYAL NAVY.

Captain Allan Poland, D.S.O., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived on the 26th July in H.M.S. Shoreham and left on the 31st.

By previous arrangement official calls were dispensed with.

84. SHIPPING.

29.7.37. Tatsuyo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 75 sacks cement, 200 cases vegetaline, 225 cases tea and 90 packages general cargo.

85. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

No.4 Armoured Car Section of the 84 Squadron, R.A.F., Shaibah, arrived at Kuwait on the 24th July and returned to base on the 27th July.

(b) Imperial Airways.

All westbound and eastbound planes landed here on due dates during the period under review.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane with Messrs: Gordon and Cook of the same company as passengers, arrived here on the 19th, and returned to take them back on the 20th.

86. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Bank for Kuwait.

Mr. S. Hendry, Manager of the Basra Branch of the Eastern Bank arrived here on the 23rd July. He had an audience of the Ruler on the 24th, when he was given a list of conditions required to be fulfilled by any Bank

any Bank opening here.

Mr.Hendry left for Basra on the 26th and is communicating with his Head Office.

(b) Indian Post and Telegraph Office for Kuwait.

(1) Mr.F.W.Humphry, Divisional Manager of Cable & Wireless Ltd., arrived here on the 18th July by Imperial Airways from Karachi to make enquiries in regard to the establishment of a unit of Cable and Wireless in Kuwait.

Mr.Humphrey left on the 22nd July for Basra en route to India by Imperial Airways on the 25th.

(2) Mr.Humphrey also made enquiries on behalf of the Automatic Telephone Company which is interested in the establishment of an internal telephone system.

87.PALESTINE.

Few comments about Palestine affairs were heard during the period of this Summary. Arab newspaper reports of the Police raid upon the quarters of the Supreme Arab Council seemed to have had an excellent effect locally, where the strength of Government of Palestine in doing this was commented upon, although admittedly people here are not very clear of the exact significance.

88.SAUDI ARABIA.

Iraqi Newspapers give unfounded story about tribes.

An Article appeared in "AL BILAD" newspaper of Iraq describing a "conference"of the Shaikhs of the Mutair Tribe prior to their march on the Jews of Palestine.

There is no foundation for this story.

For various reasons the Mutair, most of whom are in Saudi Arabia and a few in Kuwait, are not in the least likely to move towards Palestine - Distance: it is 1050 miles or about a month by camel to Palestine - summer weather and water conditions, Governmental control through the markets where they must restock in October and

October and November, and past experiences make any move by them in the direction of Palestine impossible at least for this summer or autumn.

(b) Nejd Mutairi Chieftains.

Reference para 156(d) of Summary No.16 of 1936.

Mukharrib (Faisal) bin Watban ad Duwish, one of the young Shaikhs of the Mutair, who ran away from Saudi Arabia to Kuwait, left this spring for Transjordan to try out the bounty of Major Glubb of the Transjordan Police.

He now writes from the Palace, Amman to say he is very comfortable, and intends staying there for some time.

Other Shaikhs from the Mutair of Saudi Arabia and the Kuwait borders who have been attracted to Transjordan are:-

FARIS bin LAMI of the Mutair (who went with Mukharrib in spring 1937).

NIJA bin MUHAILIB of the Buraih division of the Mutair. (Went in early autumn 1936).

(c) Tax-gathering.

The Mutair in common with other tribes have recently received encylicals from the King of Saudi Arabia on the subject of the tax - the ZAKKA -, into the collection of which it seems there had crept some innovations not sanctioned by religion.

(d) General.

(i) An example of how in fact the Saudi Arab blockade works and debts are paid in Nejd has been given by a Nejdi who has just arrived in Kuwait.

He is a merchant who was owed Rs.22,000 by the Privy Purse of H.M.King Abdul Aziz. After numerous applications for payment he was given a draft on the Customs Department. The Customs Department refused to pay in cash, and informed him that the only way he could recover his money through them was to import goods, the tax on which when remitted by them, would equal the sum owed him.

He/

He thus secured permission to buy at Kuwait 8000 tins of Kerosene which will be arriving in four consignments in the course of the next few months.

As the Saudi Arab tax on entry of this type of commodity is Rs.2/- "per load" (or NAQLA) he is taking care to make each load as large as possible and is now buying up used containers, brought with shark oil from MAKALLA, which will enable him to make each NAQLA 8 gallons instead of four.

(ii) On the other hand stern measures are being taken in Riyadh against smugglers. It is reported that three shops in Riyadh belonging to those who have engaged in smuggling were recently burnt by Government orders and a number of the Ajman tribe have recently been imprisoned, some in Riyadh, others in al Hasa, for the same crime.

89.IRAQ.

Customs.

New Iraqi Customs officials from Baghdad have arrived at Zubair and have apparently been ordered to "tighten up" the control.

They are zealous and it is reported by Europeans passing the Customs that they are now particularly singled out for careful customs examination - "as in Iran".

The latest case reported is of an American Missionary Lady who had her knitting needles and wool queried and eventually had to leave them in the Customs.

90.THE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

Reference para 71 (Summary No.8), and other paragraphs reporting progress of the Kuwait Oil Company's work.

(a) The General Superintendent of the Kuwait Oil Company estimates that drilling near Burgan, 30 miles south of Kuwait (See R.A.F. Sketch Map of Kuwait 1:500,000)

will be commenced by mid-October.

The headquarters camp for the boring will be at Maqwa.

(b) From the Maqwa centre other bores in the southern half of Kuwait may be worked later.

(c) The Company are retaining the site and pier at Qasr Khadama, on the west side of Kuwait Bay, although it is no longer used as Bahra camp is abandoned.

(d) Reference para 34 (Summary No.4) of 1937, reporting the occupation of a site at Bandar Shuwaikh, immediately west of Kuwait Town, by the Kuwait Oil Company for their operations.

The Company have now established a reserve water tank there from which there is under construction a water pipe line with boosts to their camp.

(e) The personnel of the Company is now as follows:-

| | |
|---|---|
| British | 14 |
| British Indians | 35 |
| Americans | 2 |
| Kuwaitis | 300 |

91. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 117.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... 85.F.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 6th August 1937.

[signature] Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-----

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Secretary to the Government of India, External Affairs Department, Simla.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O."3" W, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. His Excellency the Governor, Aden.

8./

8. The Air Officer Commanding, Iraq Command, Baghdad.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding 203 (F.B.) Squadron, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.

------

Copy of extract at A(1) to file (2) to C.G. Eastwood Esq Colonial Office 5 AUG 1937



590 70 593 Coll 30/45.

SECRET.

No. 9 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th June to 15th July 1937.

-----

pp. 4297

74.ROYAL NAVY.

H.M.S.Deptford (Commander Bowlby) arrived here on the 7th July and left on the 9th.

By previous arrangement official calls were dispensed with.

75.SHIPPING.

See appendix.

76.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound and Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates during the period under review.

77.VISITORS.

(a) Official.

Sir Reader W.Bullard, K.C.M.G.,C.I.E.,His Majesty's Minister, Jedda, arrived here on the 15th July from Bahrain by Imperial Airways, leaving Kuwait on the 17th July for Basra and Baghdad en route for the United Kingdom.

(b) Non-official.

(i) Mr.Harris of the Ottoman Bank, Basra, accompanied by Mrs.Harris, arrived here on the 14th and left on the 16th. Mr.Harris discussed with His Highness the Ruler the possibility of a branch of the Ottoman Bank being established at Kuwait. No decision was made pending reference to the Directors of the Ottoman Bank.



(ii)

591
594

- 2 -

(ii) Shaikhs Abdulla and Abdul Majid, sons of the late Shaikh Khazaal, arrived here on the 26th June and left on the 28th for Basra.

(iii) A.R.Lindt and his wife, Swiss subjects, arrived here from Basra on the 29th June and left by Arab sailing boat on the 6th July for Bahrain.

A

Lindt is an author and journalist, working for a Berlin newspaper agency and a correspondent of the leading Swiss newspapers. His wife is a daughter of General Dunsterville. They have previously travelled in Liberia.

(iv) Abdul Aziz and Ali bin Ibrahim al Mu'ammar arrived at Kuwait on the 13th July en route for Riyadh, where they are joining their father, the Qaimakam Designate of Jedda, but who, they said, now hopes to be appointed to Cairo instead.

77.LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Public Library.

The Ruler, last year, approved and the Municipality has now almost finished building a Public Library in the Suq at Tajjar quarter of Kuwait.

The cost of the building, and the books are being contributed by the notables and merchants voluntarily.

(b) General Trends.

The Ruler, who some years ago once or twice appeared in European dress, and endeavoured to encourage the leaving off of their cloaks by Kuwaitis has, together with members of his family, recently been saying publicly that to abandon Arab dress and ways is "the beginning of the end and means abandoning religion ". The Municipality has been tightening up in other ways and preventing, in the cause of virtue, the evening excursions of women to the walls.

This coincides with the pronouncements of Ibn Saud

592
595



Ibn Saud mentioned in Jedda Summary for May 1937, para 202, and seems in fact to be equally needless, or at least premature. No Arab in Kuwait except the employees of the Kuwait Oil Company while actually at work on machinery, wears trousers or has taken to European dress or customs or apparently wants to in this climate: although they "modernize" in other ways, making use of Radios, cars etcetera.

(On the other hand, perhaps it is a sign of the times that the Summer branch of the Shaikh's coffee shop has this year been placarded in Arabic "QAHWAT BARIS" or Cafe de Paris).

(c) Electric Light Company.

The Kuwait Electric Light Company is negotiating with British firms for a new electric light engine to replace the German one which has never been satisfactory since it was installed in 1934.

78. PALESTINE.

The reactions to the publication of Palestine Royal Commission's Report were very mild in Kuwait. The man in the street (or rather in the dhow or Bedouin market) knew and still knows nothing whatever about it. The very limited literate and wealthy class took more interest, and fastening on to the word "partition", protested to the Shaikh and appealed him to send telegrams of protest to the authorities concerned and the Supreme Muslim Council.

His Highness did send off some non-committal telegrams to the Supreme Muslim Council, the King of Iraq and the King of Saudi Arabia, and also transmitted local views to British Governmental quarters.

As seems to have been foreseen a milder view of

593
596

- 4 -

view of partition as a solution is now being taken than was on the first day or two after publication.

The onset of the greatest Summer heat is also having a contrary effect on the local political barometer. The maximum temperature recently has been 115.F. and from 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. human beings are disinterested in anything much except the coming of the comparative coolness of the night. The news published on the wireless that Ibn Saud's message in reply to the Supreme Muslim Council had been "more non-committal" than others, also had a good effect here, where in such matters he is the arbiter of public opinion.

The pronouncement of Hikmat Sulaiman, Prime Minister of Iraq, that anyone who accepted headship of the Arab State would incur the anger of the Arab World has had a mixed reception; rather more bad than good. The Emir Abdulla is not popular but he is an Arab, unlike Hikmat Sulaiman, and accepted as a descendant of the prophet, so that some caustic comments were made locally about Hikmat's authority to speak.

79.KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

An attack on the Oil Company and the Ruler of Kuwait appeared in the Iraqi newspaper "AS/SIJIL" on the 6th July 1937.

A copy has been forwarded to the Hon'ble the

the Hon'ble the Political Resident.

The gist seemed to be that the Oil Company were not trying to find oil: that by drilling "at Sabahiya", (where they are not and do not yet intend to drill), which is "claimed by Ibn Saud", (which it is not), they indicate that they are playing "a deep and bad game"; and the Ruler by not consulting his people in the matter is much to be criticised.

80. SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) General Security in Nejd and Hassa.

Reports are reaching here of raids by the Bani Hajir on the Ahl Murra, with rather disturbing results on general security.

The Harb and the other great tribes some weeks ago showed signs of restlessness, which was not decreased by a belated rumour - due to his delay in the Hejaz in the Spring - that the King was dying or seriously ill. The King's return and activity has restored the situation.

COMMENT.

Among tribal people more and more is heard of the revolt that will take place in Nejd if Ibn Saud should weaken or his life fail.

It is often said that a pact exists between the three tribes, the Ajman (Ibn Hithlain), the Mutair (ad Duwish) and the Ataiba (Ibn Humaid) that they will take concerted action as soon as opportunity offers.

(b) Frontier Control.

On the 15th June 1937, a caravan of the Harb making for Zubair with butter was intercepted by the Saudi Frontier Control near Ugubba on the Neutral Zone frontier. All loads and camels were confiscated; the men making off safely under cover of rifle fire.

(c) Tax Gathering (the Zekka).

Cooperation with Saudi Authorities.

- 6 -

The Ruler of Kuwait has sent his Emir al Fidawiya (chief of the guards) Naza'al bin Rai, to the frontier to assist the Saudi tax-gatherers. Nomads due taxation sometime evade it by crossing the frontier and concealing themselves among the tribes on the other side.

For this reason the Emir's assistance has been given.

31. TWO AFGHAN VISITORS.

Reference paras 137 and 157 of 1936 and 45 of 1937 of Kuwait Summary, para 37 of Jedda Summary for January 1937 and paras 6310, 6329, 6334, 6470, 6476 and 6481 of Aden Reports.

Saiyid (Ali) Ghulab Shah Abbasi ibn Sayid Fadhil al Afghani alias Ghalib Khan Muhamed Khan or Sayid Ghulab Shah, after leaving the Red Sea went to Marseilles, thence to Monte Carlo, thence Paris, where his address on the 30th of May was:- Hotel des Empereurs, 20 Rue Jean Jacques, Roosseau. In a letter received here he states he is going to Berlin where his address will be merely Poste Restante, Berlin.

Sources in Europe may be able to discover more about this couple, if all is not already known. No certain information about them has been received here. Sayid Ghulab says in his letters to acquaintances here that he proposes to return to the East next winter.

32. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 115.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 80.F.

[signature]
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 17th July 1937.

----

USUAL DISTRIBUTION.

- 6 -

The Ruler of Kuwait has sent his Emir al Fidawiya (chief of the guards) Naza'al bin Rali, to the frontier to assist the Saudi tax-gatherers. Nomads due taxation sometime evade it by crossing the frontier and concealing themselves among the tribes on the other side.

For this reason the Emir's assistance has been given.

31. TWO AFGHAN VISITORS.

Reference paras 137 and 167 of 1936 and 65 of 1937 of Kuwait Summary, para 37 of Jedda Summary for January 1937 and paras 6310, 6327, 6364, 6470, 6476 and 6481 of Aden Reports.

Saiyid (Ali) Ghulam Shah Abbasi ibn Sayid Fadhil al Afghani alias Ghulib Khan Muhammad Khan or Sayid Ghulab Shah, after leaving the Red Sea went to Marseilles, thence to Monte Carlo, thence Paris, where his address on the 30th of May was:- Hotel des Empereurs, 32 Rue Jean Jacques, Rousseau. In a letter received here he states he is going to Berlin where his address will be merely Poste Restante, Berlin.

Sources in Europe may be able to discover more about this couple, if all is not already known. No certain information about them has been received here. Sayid Ghulab says in his letters to acquaintances here that he proposes to return to the East next winter.

32. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 115°F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 80°F.

[signature]
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait, the 17th July 1937.

---

USUAL DISTRIBUTION.

APPENDIX.

75.SHIPPING.

22.6.37. S.S.Nichiyo Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 200 cases vegetable oil and 200 cases black tea.

27.6.37. S.S.Chile Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 42 packages of general cargo.

11.7.37. S.S.Yoshida Maru (Japanese - Yamashit Line). Discharged 70 packages of general cargo.

------

SECRET.

No. 8 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st May to 15th June 1937.

-----

65.ROYAL NAVY.

(a) Captain Allan Poland, D.S.O., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived in H.M.S.Shoreham on the 3rd May and left on the 4th.

Usual calls were exchanged between His Highness the Ruler, the Senior Naval Officer and the Political Agent.

(b) H.M.S.Bideford (Commander Faulkner, D.S.C.) arrived on the 10th May and left on the 14th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

66.SHIPPING.

| | |
|---|---|
| 11.5.37. | Singapore Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 9700 paper bags of cement and 487 packages of general cargo. |
| 11.6.37. | Imatesou Maru (Japanese-Mitsui Line). Discharged 4000 paper bags of cement and 96 packages general goods. |

67.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Two Royal Air Force Flying Boats landed in Kuwait Bay on the 26th May and 9th June, respectively, each returning to Basra the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on all due dates during the period under review.

Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates, except the ones due on the 9th May and 16th May, which flew over.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on Company's business on the 19th May and again on the 14th June, returning to Abadan the same day on each occasion.

SECRET.

No. 8 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st May to 15th June 1937.

-----

65.ROYAL NAVY.

(a) Captain Allan Poland, D.S.O., Senior Naval Officer, Persian Gulf, arrived in H.M.S.Shoreham on the 3rd May and left on the 4th.

Usual calls were exchanged between His Highness the Ruler, the Senior Naval Officer and the Political Agent.

(b) H.M.S.Bideford (Commander Faulkner, D.S.O.) arrived on the 10th May and left on the 14th. Official calls were exchanged in the customary manner.

66.SHIPPING.

11.5.37. Singapore Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 2700 paper bags of cement and 457 packages of general cargo.

11.6.37. Indaseou Maru (Japanese-Mitsui Line). Discharged 4000 paper bags of cement and 95 packages general goods.

67.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Two Royal Air Force Flying Boats landed in Kuwait Bay on the 26th May and 9th June, respectively, each returning to Basra the same day.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on all due dates during the period under review.

Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates, except the ones due on the 9th May and 16th May, which flew over.

(c) Miscellaneous.

The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's aeroplane arrived here on Company's business on the 12th May and again on the 14th June, returning to Abadan the same day on each occasion.

598
601

68.MOVEMENTS.

Officials.

(a) Captain A.C.Stewart, I.A., left for Khorramshahr on the 23rd May, having on the previous day handed over officiating charge of the Political Agency to Dr.A.L. Greenway, I.M.D.

(b) Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait, resumed charge of the Political Agency on return from leave in the United Kingdom on the 11th June.

(c) Having been relieved by Military Assistant Surgeon C.E.Watts, who had arrived from India on the 9th June, Military Assistant Surgeon A.L.Greenway, Quarantine Medical Officer, Kuwait, left on the 14th June for the United Kingdom on four months leave.

69.THEIR MAJESTIES' CORONATION.

On the morning of the 12th May, the Officiating Political Agent, Captain Stewart, held a reception for the British Indian community in Kuwait, followed by a reception for the European residents of the town. At noon the Officiating Political Agent entertained to luncheon the leading Europeans.

Bedouin War dances by order of the Ruler took place in the afternoon.

In the evening the Officiating Political Agent held a large dinner party, at which were present His Highness the Ruler, leading members of his family and prominent Arabs and leading members of the European and Indian communities of the town.

At 9.30 p.m. Captain Faulkner, Commander of H.M.S.Bideford, which was in port for the occasion, held a reception on board for the leading European residents of Kuwait.

70/.

- 2 -

68. MOVEMENTS.

Officials.

(a) Captain A.C.Stewart, I.A., left for Khorramshahr on the 23rd May, having on the previous day handed over officiating charge of the Political Agency to Dr.A.L. Greenway, I.M.D.

(b) Captain G.S.de Gaury, M.C., Political Agent, Kuwait, resumed charge of the Political Agency on return from leave in the United Kingdom on the 11th June.

(c) Having been relieved by Military Assistant Surgeon C.E.Watts, who had arrived from India on the 9th June, Military Assistant Surgeon A.L.Greenway, Quarantine Medical Officer, Kuwait, left on the 14th June for the United Kingdom on four months leave.

69. THEIR MAJESTIES' CORONATION.

On the morning of the 12th May, the Officiating Political Agent, Captain Stewart, held a reception for the British Indian community in Kuwait, followed by a reception for the European residents of the town. At noon the Officiating Political Agent entertained to luncheon the leading Europeans.

Bedouin war dances by order of the Ruler took place in the afternoon.

In the evening the Officiating Political Agent held a large dinner party, at which were present His Highness the Ruler, leading members of his family and prominent Arabs and leading members of the European and Indian communities of the town.

At 9.30 p.m. Captain Faulkner, Commander of H.M.S.Bideford, which was in port for the occasion, held a reception on board for the leading European residents of Kuwait.

70/.

70.LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Municipality.

Wishing to reform the local system of weights and measures, the local Municipality published on the 19th May a notification introducing the avoirdupois pound as the unit of weight for the local market. The measure had, however, to be withdrawn within a week of its introduction, owing to the confusion caused to both consumers and sellers.

(b) Electric Supply Co.

As the use of electricity is becoming increasingly extensive locally and the existing equipment of the power station is not capable of coping with the growing demand for connections, the Company are proposing shortly to order a new engine - this time a British made one as instead of a German.

The Company have increased their subscribed capital to I.D.9500 in order to meet the cost of the engine and other incidental charges.

(c) Pearl Market.

The price of pearls is descending again. While the demand just before the Coronation was sufficient to raise the price by about 40 %, and take all reserves of pearls from Kuwait, as well as increase the number of vessels which went out this Summer, the leading merchants are pessimistic about the prices they will obtain at the end of this season i.e. in October.

Looking forward, however, to 1938 they hope that the Durbar will have a good effect on the market in that year.

(e) Epedemic of Baby-snatching.

Considerable alarm has been caused by the disappearance of small children in Kuwait recently. Official action has been taken; the night watch recommended to increase their vigilance and the inhabitants warned by crier

- 3 -

70. LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Municipality.

Wishing to reform the local system of weights and measures, the local Municipality published on the 19th May a notification introducing the avoirdupois pound as the unit of weight for the local market. The measure had, however, to be withdrawn within a week of its introduction, owing to the confusion caused to both consumers and sellers.

(b) Electric Supply Co.

As the use of electricity is becoming increasingly extensive locally and the existing equipment of the power station is not capable of coping with the growing demand for connections, the Company are proposing shortly to order a new engine - this time a British made one e- instead of a German.

The Company have increased their subscribed capital to I.D.9500 in order to meet the cost of the engine and other incidental charges.

(c) Pearl Market.

The price of pearls is descending again. While the demand just before the Coronation was sufficient to raise the price by about 40 %, and take all reserves of pearls from Kuwait, as well as increase the number of vessels which went out this Summer, the leading merchants are pessimistic about the prices they will obtain at the end of this season i.e. in October.

Looking forward, however, to 1938 they hope that the Durbar will have a good effect on the market in that year.

(e) Epedemic of Baby-snatching.

Considerable alarm has been caused by the disappearance of small children in Kuwait recently. Official action has been taken; the night watch recommended to increase their vigilance and the inhabitants warned by order

crier and public notice of the danger.

A most widely believed explanation is that some of the smugglers from Iraq, who have recently increased in numbers, are taking the children for sale there.

71.KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The geophysical survey work having been completed, members of the Kuwait Oil Company's Seismic Party left Kuwait about the end of May, some proceeding to the United States, others to the United Kingdom and one to Germany for higher studies.

The Company have abandoned Ma'adaniyat as a site for their new camp and are now engaged on constructing one at Majwa, 14 miles South of Kuwait. The camp at Bahra is entirely removed.

72.SAUDI ARABIA.

According to his relative Ali bin Muammar, who arrived here en route for Baghdad, Shaikh Ibrahim al Muammar, hitherto Saudi Arabian Charge d'Affaires in Baghdad, has been appointed to be Kaimakam of Jedda and the present Kaimakam, Sayid Muhammad Id ar Rawwaf, will replace him in Baghdad.

The Rawwaf family are well known in Arabia. Originally from the district of Qasim in North Central Arabia they have been long settled in Damascus as "agail" i.e.master caravaneers. Some of the family own estates just South of Baghdad City.

73.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... ... 114.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... ... 71.F.

[signature]
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait.

19th June 1937. -----

Distribution: As usual.

- 4 -

order and public notice of the danger.

A most widely believed explanation is that some of the smugglers from Iraq, who have recently increased in numbers, are taking the children for sale there.

71.KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

The geophysical survey work having been completed, members of the Kuwait Oil Company's Seismic Party left Kuwait about the end of May, some proceeding to the United States, others to the United Kingdom and one to Germany for higher studies.

The Company have abandoned Ma'adaniyat as a site for their new camp and are now engaged on constructing one at Magwa, 14 miles south of Kuwait. The camp at Bahra is entirely removed.

72.SAUDI ARABIA.

According to his relative Ali bin Muammar, who arrived here en route for Baghdad, Shaikh Ibrahim al Muammar, hitherto Saudi Arabian Charge d'Affaires in Baghdad, has been appointed to be Kaimakam of Jedda and the present Kaimakam, Sayid Muhammad Id ar Rawwaf, will replace him in Baghdad.

The Rawwaf family are well known in Arabia. Originally from the district of Qasim in North Central Arabia they have been long settled in Damascus as "agail" i.e.master caravaneers. Some of the family own estates just South of Baghdad City.

73.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... ... ... 114.F.
Minimum temperature ... ... ... ... 71.F.

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Kuwait.
19th June 1937.

Distribution: As usual.

SECRET.

No. 7 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period 16th to 30th April 1 9 3 7 .

58.ROYAL NAVY.

Nil.

59.SHIPPING.

21.4.37. Kota Agoeng (Dutch - Silver Java Pacific Line). Discharged 1502 bags sugar and 75 bags coffee.

60.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

The East and Westbound aeroplanes landed here regularly during the period under review.

61.MOVEMENTS.

(a) Officials.

Lt.-Colonel J.J.Rooney, I.M.S., Residency Surgeon, Bushire, arrived here on the 27th April and left for Bushire on the 1st May, having inspected the Agency Charitable Dispensary.

(b) Non-Officials.

Mohammad Ashmawi, an Egyptian, representative of an Anglo-Egyptian firm dealing in scrap iron, arrived here on the 16th April from Iraq and returned to Basra on the 18th, without doing any business locally.

(c) Visit of the American Minister.

On the 27th April, Mr.P.Knabenshue, Resident Minister at Baghdad of the United States of America, accompanied by Mrs.Knabenshue, arrived at the Agency from Bahrain by the British India Company's up slow mail.

Soon/

Soon after arrival Mr.Knabenshue called on His Highness the Ruler, accompanied by Captain Stewart, the Political Agent.

Mr.and Mrs.Knabenshue left for Basra in the afternoon by the same steamer.

62.GERMAN INTERESTS.

Reference para 17 of 1937 (Summary No.2).

Herr Kopp proceeded to Iraq on the 19th April to look for a man to relieve him as the engineer in charge of the local Electric Power Station. He returned to Kuwait on the 24th, accompanied by a British Indian Electrical Engineer, Gopal Nair by name. Having explained the work to Gopal Nair, Herr Kopp finally left Kuwait on the 30th April.

With Kopp's departure, Kuwait got rid of the last of the Germans here, who seemed lately to be making quite a set at Kuwait.

63.SAUDI ARABIA.

(a) Having been joined at Riyadh by His Royal Highness Amir Saud on his return from Iraq (See para56 of 1937), His Majesty King Abdul Aziz bin Saud left Riyadh about the 10th April for Jedda, whence the Amir proposed leaving for London to attend the Coronation of His Majesty King George.

Before leaving Bin Saud is reported to have given orders for the tribesmen to start gathering at Riyadh preparatory for the annual feudal levee, which is expected to take place about the 1st of Rabi al Awal (15.5.37). Tribesmen are reported to be mustering strong for the occasion, when, according to the time-honoured custom, they will receive the annual largesse from the King. Any questions of the moment and of a general nature will, it is said, also be discussed at the occasion.

(b) About the 20th April, Mohammad bin Duwish ibn Shuqair arrived at Kuwait from Jeriya, accompanied by his wife, apparently to attend the American Mission Hospital

603

(606)

- 3 -

Hospital for some internal trouble.

(c) Inspite of the Blockade, which unfortunately still continues, the Awazim, Huzaim Suda, have been lately doing good bit of buying from Kuwait - secretly of couse.

64. METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) No rain fell during the period under review.

(b) Maximum temperature ... ... 103.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 63.F.

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 10th May 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

No. 6 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 15th April 1937.



1. Mr Clauson
2. Mr Symon
3. Extract para 55 for file
+ Put by

50. ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

51. SHIPPING.

5.4.37. S.S.Saikoh Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 28 packages of general goods.

52. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Westbound planes landed here on the 1st, 4th, 11th and 15th April. The one due on the 7th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 7th, 11th and 14th April. The one due on the 4th did not land.

53. MOVEMENTS.

(a) Officials.

Captain A.C.Stewart (accompanied by Mrs.Stewart) arrived at Kuwait on the 4th April from Bahrain, by Imperial Airways, to take over as Political Agent, Kuwait, from Captain G.S.de Gaury, who proceeded to the United Kingdom on the 9th April on leave. Captain de Gaury left Kuwait by overland route in his private car.

The Hon'ble Lt.-Colonel T.C.Fowle, C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr.J.A.Croning, M.B.E., and staff, arrived from Khorramshahr via Basra and overland on the 4th April and left for Bahrain by slow mail on the 6th April.

(b)

No. 6 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

for the period from 1st to 15th April 1937.

50.ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

51.SHIPPING.

5.4.37. S.S.Saikon Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 23 packages of general goods.

52.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Westbound planes landed here on the 1st, 4th, 11th and 15th April. The one due on the 7th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 7th, 11th and 14th April. The one due on the 4th did not land.

53.MOVEMENTS.

(a) Officials.

Captain A.C.Stewart (accompanied by Mrs.Stewart) arrived at Kuwait on the 4th April from Bahrain, by Imperial Airways, to take over as Political Agent, Kuwait, from Captain G.S.de Gaury, who proceeded to the United Kingdom on the 9th April on leave. Captain de Gaury left Kuwait by overland route in his private car.

The Hon'ble Lt.-Colonel T.C.Fowle, C.B.E., Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, accompanied by his Under Secretary Mr.J.A.Croning, M.B.E., and staff, arrived from Khorramshahr via Basra and overland on the 4th April and left for Bahrain by slow mail on the 6th April.

(b)

(b) Non-officials.

Major Sargon, Inspector of 4th Area Iraqi Police, arrived with a party of 8 on a pleasure trip to Kuwait on the 2nd April and returned to Iraq on the 5th. The whole party stayed in the Diwaniya of the late Shaikh Khaza'al.

On the 15th April, Chefik Keilani, a Syrian national and a physician of sorts, who had previously practised in Kuwait and left under a cloud, again arrived at Kuwait in the B.I.s.s.Chantala. As it was not considered desirable that he should again be permitted to land His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait took precautionary measures to ensure that he should not slip ashore unnoticed.

54. LOCAL INTERESTS.

On the 10th April, two Kuwaiti sailing boats which were carrying cargoes of sand for the A.I.O.C., Abadan, were sunk in the bay in a heavy storm. Fortunately, there was no loss of life.

55. OIL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Oil Company.

No.1 Bahrah well of the Kuwait Oil Company has proved a failure and drilling has recently been suspended. At present the camp at Bahrah is being dismantled preparatory to shifting the scene of activities to Ma'adaniyat and Burgan. The well had reached a depth of 7950 ft. before drilling ceased.

56. SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference para 46 (Summary No.5) of 1937.

His Royal Highness the Emir Saud on his return journey from Iraq lunched at Hulaiba in the Batin. Some 25 tents were put up for him and he was entertained

(b) Non-officials.

Major Gergon, Inspector of 4th Area Iraqi Police, arrived with a party of 8 on a pleasure trip to Kuwait on the 2nd April and returned to Iraq on the 5th. The whole party stayed in the Diwaniya of the late Shaikh Khaza'al.

On the 15th April, Cherif Kellani, a Syrian national and a physician of sorts, who had previously practised in Kuwait and left under a cloud, again arrived at Kuwait in the B.I.s.s.Chantala. As it was not considered desirable that he should again be permitted to land His Highness the Ruler of Kuwait took precautionary measures to ensure that he should not slip ashore unnoticed.

54.LOCAL INTERESTS.

On the 10th April, two Kuwaiti sailing boats which were carrying cargoes of sand for the A.I.O.C., Abadan, were sunk in the bay in a heavy storm. Fortunately, there was no loss of life.

55.OIL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Oil Company.

No.1 Bahrah well of the Kuwait Oil Company has proved a failure and drilling has recently been suspended. At present the camp at Bahrah is being dismantled preparatory to shifting the scene of activities to Ma'aaniyat and Burgan. The well had reached a depth of 7950 ft. before drilling ceased.

56.SAUDI ARABIA.

Reference para 46 (Summary No.5) of 1937.

His Royal Highness the Amir Saud on his return journey from Iraq lunched at Hulaiba in the Batin. Some 25 tents were put up for him and he was entertained

entertained by Abdulla ar Rashaid and Saudi nationals of Zubair.

On the afternoon of the 5th April he left Hulaiba for Hafr al Batin frontier post.

57. METEOROLOGICAL.

0.32" of rain fell during the period under review.

Maximum temperature ... ... 85.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 58.F.

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 20th April 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

1. Mr Clauson
2. Mr Symon
3. Extract paras 43 and 48 for files



No. 5 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary
For the period 16th March to 31st March 1937.

-----

39.ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

40.SHIPPING.

26.3.37 S.S.Silwari (Dutch - Silver Java Pacific line). Discharged 225 bags coffee and 2128 bags of sugar.

41.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on all due dates.

Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates.

42.VISITORS.

Mr.Loxley, a Secretary at the British Legation, Tehran, arrived on the 25th March at the Agency and left on the 28th by overland route for Basra.

Miss Freya Stark, the orientalist and author, who had arrived at Kuwait on the 2nd March, left on the 30th March by steamer for Basra.

43.LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Bank for Kuwait.

Mr.Dent, Joint Manager of the Ottoman Bank, Basra, and Mrs.Dent arrived on the 26th March and returned to Basra on the 27th. Mr.Dent sought direct but did not obtain an interview with His Highness the Ruler.

Mr.Dent's visit was ostensibly a short private visit to Mr.and Mrs.Scott. He did not call at the Agency.



(b) The Pilgrimage by car from Kuwait.

(Reference HUNTER'S MAP OF ARABIA, and Field Notes on Saudi Arabia, Communications map).

(a) The pilgrimage by car from Kuwait to Mecca

Mecca and Medina and return, now costs per person Rs.500, but in this sum all taxes payable are included.

(b) Taxes.

The taxes are

(a) half a gold pound per 8 gallons of petrol brought into the country, payable at Jaryat al Ilya frontier post,

(b) Two gold pounds for every touring car entering the country, also payable at Jaryat al Ilya frontier post.

(c) Three and a quarter gold pounds on every pilgrim leaving Mecca for Medina. (This is a reduction on previous years).

(c)Kuwait to Mecca.

The time taken for the 1666 Kilometres from Kuwait to Mecca is three days. Drivers habitually take as much petrol as possible, and only if short buy at Muwaih (or if necessary at DUWADMI, or MARAT) from the Government stores there. They pay one gold pound for every 8 gallons. Usually however they contrive to get through without any purchase, or of only about two tins at Muwaih.

(d) Mecca to Medina.

From Mecca to Medina takes three days and the road is reported by Kuwait drivers to be getting very bad, being more and more cut up by lorries and other cars. The worst part, they say, is between MASTOURA and ABIAR IBN HASANI - a stretch of sand and rock. The road still passes Jedda and RABIGH; no direct car route having been found practicable.

(e) Medina to Kuwait.

On leaving Medina the route to Hail is taken

taken as far as HANAKIYAH, thence there is a good track via ARJA, NIQARA, and AGLAT AS SAQOUR to a point between ANAIZA and BURAIDA. There, by the village of RABAAI, great difficulty is encountered in hilly and sandy country, and passengers have to get out and walk.

The track then goes by MASTAWI (no water) leaving the NAFUD AS SIRR on the right (or West) to MARAT. Thence the return journey to Kuwait is on the same track as the outward journey, i.e. via RAMAHIYA and JARYAT AL ILYA.

44.GERMAN INTERESTS.

Reference Summary No.2 of 1937 (para 17(b)).

Dr.Peters and Frau Postl left for Iraq by car on the 12th March 1937.

Herr Kopp, who was to leave on the 31st March has been granted an extension up to end of April, to enable him to fit certain spare parts which are expected to arrive shortly from Germany for the German Gueldner engine of the Kuwait Electric Supply Company.

Mr.W.Meinel of Messrs.E.Suren of Basra (See Kuwait Intelligence Summary 18of 1936) arrived here on the 26th March to secure the above mentioned extension for Herr Kopp. Meinel left for Basra on the 27th.

45.TWO AFGHAN VISITORS.

In connection with para 1~~8~~5 7 of 193~~7~~6 (Summary No.16), it is noted for record purposes that other references are Jedda Report for January (para 37) and Aden Reports Nos.525 and 527.

Progress of the two men recently has therefore apparently been:-

Arrived Kuwait from Iraq in July,

Kuwait for Saudi Arabia in early October,

Deported from Saudi Arabia about end of January, and presumably went to Massawa.

Arrived on 3.2.37 at Hodeida (from Massawa?), where they apparently still are.

46. SAUDI ARABIA.

Passage of the Amir Saud.

Four hundred tins of petrol and other supplies were ordered from Kuwait and sent to Hafr al Batin, the Saudi frontier post, on the 20th March for the party of Amir Saud.

The Amir arrived at Hafr al Batin at 9.30 a.m. on the 26th March and left during the night for Zubair with eight cars, the remainder staying at Hafr until his return.

At Zubair the Amir had a meal in the house of Saiyid Hashim an Naqib, having been met by Iraqi officials and Police at ar-Riqai in the Batin. It is understood that the Amir is returning by the same route in about 7 days time.

According to information received by the Ruler, the Amir, on his return to Saudi Arabia, will go to meet His Majesty in Hejaz, and the King will only then return to Riyadh.

47. IRAQ.

Bani Huchaim Tribe.

Whether or not it is true, it is generally believed among the Bani Malik tribesmen of Iraq (now in Kuwait for their annual winter peregrination) that Abu Mizihir of the Bani Huchaim is a man to cause trouble in the future. They say that he has increasing influence in his tribe, and is receiving subsidies through his son from the Government and Palace in Baghdad, as well as payment for his protection and influence (Khoda) from merchants and smaller tribal sections who move into his grazing area. The latter is in the Jezira i.e. East of the Euphrates and SAMAWA.

COMMENT.

- 5 -

COMMENT.

There seems to be some doubt about Abu Mizihirs full name among the Bani Malik, who know him best and always as Abu Mizihir.

48.ITALIAN WIRELESS PROPAGANDA.

An extract from Aden Report No.529 for the week ending 17th March 1937 is as follows:-

"It is reported that Italian news broadcast from
"Rome in Arabic was heard at Hodeida on 11th
"March to the effect that British aeroplanes
"bombed certain tribes in the interior of Koweit
"in the Persian Gulf.......".

This news as far as can be ascertained was not heard in Kuwait town.

Some owners of battery radios live in the desert, others on Falaicha Island, and at a distance, and they may have heard it, without it being known to the Agency.

49.METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 85.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 58.F.

[signature]
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

The 1st April 1937.

-----

DISTRIBUTION.

1.The Secretary,Political Department,India Office, London.
2.The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India,N.DEHLI.
3.His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4.His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5.The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6.The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O."3" W, General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7.The Chief Commissioner, Aden.
8.The Air Officer Commanding,Iraq Command,Baghdad.
9.The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre,Colombo.
10.The Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.

11./

612
615

- 6 -

11. The Officer Commanding 203 (F.B.) Squadron, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.

-----

- 6 -

11.The Officer Commanding 203 (G.R.)Squadron, Shaiba.

12.The Political Agent, Muscat.

13.The Political Agent, Bahrain.

14.His Majesty's Consul, Basra.

15.His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.

1. Mr Blaxxxx 17/4
2. Mr Symon To see 17/4
3. Extract paras 34 + 36 for files.
that by 17/4

No. 4 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period 1st March to 15th March 1937.



-----

28.ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

29.SHIPPING.

No foreign ships visited Kuwait during the period under review.

Coll. 30/95 1788

30.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 4th and the 14th March. The ones due on the 7th and the 10th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates.

31.MOVEMENTS.

Officials.

The Political Agent left on the 3rd March by Imperial Airways for Bahrain to confer with the Hon'ble the Political Resident; returning to headquarters on the 8th by flyingboat via Basra.

Non-officials.

Nil.

32.VISITORS.

Fotye Davidovitch, Yugoslav subject, representing World Free Trading Co., New York, arrived on the 5th March from Basra and returned the next day to Iraq.

33.LOCAL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Landing and Transport Company.

(Reference Admiralty Charts).

His Excellency the Ruler has granted the Kuwait

Kuwait Landing Company a site at Bandar Shuwaikh immediately West of that granted to the Kuwait Oil Company. (See para 34 below). Its western boundary is the Coal Tower inclusive, thence due South to the Kuwait-Jahra road.

34.OIL INTERESTS.

Kuwait Oil Company.

(Reference Admiralty Sheet).

Reference para 33 above. His Excellency the Ruler has granted the Kuwait Oil Company for use in their operations a section of the Bandar Shuwaikh site on the foreshore West of the Town of Kuwait.

The boundaries are as follows:-

Length along the foreshore. 200 yards commencing from a point 50 yards East of the old landing jetty and stretching eastward.

Depth. From foreshore to Kuwait-Jahra road - distance 460 yards.

Length along Kuwait-Jahra Road. The same as on foreshore namely 200 yards.

35.FRENCH ACTIVITIES.

Reference para 24 (Summary No.3).

Admiral Fernet sent direct to the Ruler a very complimentary letter in Arabic in which he expressed his regret at his early departure, the hope of seeing him again and his admiration for him.

36.ITALIAN ACTIVITES.

Returning pilgrims bring as usual gossip from all over Arabia and the Moslem World.

An item this year is that the Senussi, now in Egypt, has Italian backing for some intrigue in Asir. Belief is strong in South and West Arabia that Italy is determined to make troube thereabouts.

37.SAUDI ARABIA.

Movements.

According

615

618



According to letters from Riyadh,

(a) H.M.the King is expected to return to Riyadh from the Hejaz on the 15th Moharram (28th March):

(b) H.R.H.the Emir Saud, who is at present dividing his time between the Royal Camp at Khafs and Riyadh, is expected to go into Iraq next month, with a small following by one of the direct roads which leave aside Kuwait.

Desert News.

Arrivals from Saudi Arabia report that

(a) Ibrahim bin Arfaj, Commander of the Troops at al Majmaa, capital of the Province of Sudair, has been placed under arrest and is now in Riyadh, accused of accepting bribes in camels:

(b) Muhammad Ibn Muhaidhif, Emir of Jaryat al Ilya is also under a cloud and liable to be arrested for malpractice.

It is reported that Ibn Saud is attempting to stamp upon the corruption which he has observed since the installation of officials (in place of the feudal system) and that these arrests are part of his campaign. Bedouin are praising him for this just now.

Wireless Communication.

The following is an extract from the issue of the Hejazi newspaper Umm al Qura, dated the 12th February 1937:-

"INTRODUCTION OF TWO WIRELESS STATIONS".

"The Posts and Telegraphs Department has established two "short-wave wireless stations, one at al Hafr near Kuwait and "the other at Lina on the Iraq Hajj Road. Both began working "last Friday" (e i.e.5th February).

Note.

See Summary No.12 of 1936, para 114(4). Al Hafr and Lina are two of the string of new Saudi Arab frontier forts facing Iraq; Hafr being the most easterly and

easterly and opposite Kuwait.

Tribal Locations.

Saudi Arabia.

Part of the Bani Khalid on their annual migration northwards are now in Kuwait territory under Ibn Khazar. (The Bani Khalid are the former ruling tribe of al Hasa).

Iraq.

Large numbers of the Muntafiq donkey sections are now far down into Kuwait and Nejd on their annual migration southwards.

In a few days they will have reached the furthest limit of their annual migration and turn back once more to the Euphrates, which they reach in June.

It is reported that the Saudi Arab officials at Hafr al Batin Post have held them up for the first time for the payments of a toll tax, greatly to their dissatisfaction.

58. METEOROLOGICAL.

Maximum temperature ... ... 74.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 49.F.

[signature]
Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

The 16th March 1937.

-----

No. 3 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 16th to 28th February 1937.

**19.ROYAL NAVY.**

H.M.S.Deptford (Commander C.F.B.Bowlby,DSC) arrived on the 26th February and left on the 28th February 1937. By previous arrangement official calls between the Ruler, the Political Agent and the Commander were waived.

**20.SHIPPING.**

(See annexure).

**21.AVIATION.**

( See annexure).

**22.VISITORS.**

(a) Mr.G.W.Rendel, C.M.G., Head of the Eastern Department of the Foreign Office and Mrs.Rendel arrived here on the 21st February from Basra and Baghdad. Mr. and Mrs.Rendel left on 23rd February by British India steamer s.s.Bandra for Bushire, en route for Bahrain and Riyadh.

(b) Mr.C.J.Edmonds, C.B.E., Adviser to the Ministry of Interior, Baghdad and Mrs.Edmonds arrived here on the 22nd and returned to Iraq on the 27th February.

(c) Mr.F.H.Todd, H.M's Vice-Consul at Bushire and Commercial Adviser to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, arrived here accompanied by Mrs. Todd on the 23rd and left for Basra and Bushire on the 25th February.

(d) Mr.Summerscale, Commercial Attache to the Embassy, Baghdad and a party of seven arrived here on the 25th February and returned to Iraq on the 26th.

23./

621

- 2 -

23.LOCAL INTERESTS.

Acting on a telegram received on the 19th from Mecca, the local authorities announced the 21st February as the Day of Sacrifice the Holiday (the Id ud-Dhahiya) which was therefore celebrated here on that and the succeeding days.

24.FRENCH INTERESTS.

Visit of French Warship d'Iberville.

Amiral Fernet arrived on the 23rd February in the French Warship d'Iberville. Owing to the serious illness of Lieutenant Albert de Boucheman, a member of the Institut de France French Political Intelligence and Research Bureau in Damascus, who accompanied Amiral Fernet on his Red Sea and Persian Gulf tour, the d'Iberville had to leave the same day to take the Officer to Basra Hospital. The d'Iberville's surgeon and another officer were also ill. Another member of the Damascus Burea, the Jesuit father, ex-Naval Officer and Orientalist, Charles was also on board.

25.GERMAN INTERESTS.

Reference para 17 of Summary No.2 of 1937.

During the period under review, application for permission to visit Kuwait was made by Herr Heinrich Willnow of F.Undutsch & Co. of Bremen, a German armament firm. As no German arms are required locally visa for Kuwait was refused by the British representative to whom the application was made.

26.SAUDI ARABIA.

Aftermath of the Ikhwan Revolt 1928-30.

It is now confirmed that Bandar ad Duwish, the senior surviving member of the Ruling family of the MUTAIR tribe, hitherto detained in Riyadh under supervision, has been given his liberty by Ibn Saud. The King,

according to Bedouin reports which as related sound true, offered him the Emirship of Artawiya, the Mutair Ikhwan settlement and "Capital".

Bandar is said to have refused in the very blunt way which the democratic Bedouin permit to themselves, and is now leading a nomadic life, being camped at TARAIBI in the SUMMAN (Million Sheet - 40 miles South of Jarya el Ilya on Kuwait-Riyadh car track).

COMMENT.

See para 114(5)(b) of 1936 of Kuwait Intelligence Summary (for the period 16th July to 31st July 1936) in which the pardon and appointment to the Emirship of his own tribal area of Khalid Ibn Hithlain, Shaikh of the AJMAN tribe was mentioned.

There still remains in Iraq Naif Ibn HUMAID of the ATAIBA tribe and in Kuwait Mutlaq as Sur of the Mutair, who show no sign of desiring Ibn Saud's pardon.

27.METEOROLOGICAL.

(a) .82" of rain, the heaviest for the season, was registered on the 22nd February, bringing the total for the season to 3".

(b) Maximum temperature ... 72.F.
Minimum temperature ... 47.F.

Sd.G.S.de Gaury,
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 2nd March 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

ANNEXURE TO INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY NO.3.

20.SHIPPING.

20.2.37. S.S.Salawati (Silver Java Pacific Line - Dutch). Discharged 19086 bags soft sugar and 252 bags coffee.

21.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on the 18th, 21st, 25th and 28th February.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 17th, 21st, 24th and 28th February.

-----

No. 2 of1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary,

For the period 1st February to 15th February 1937.



1. Mr. Clauson. 2. Mr. Symon. P.A. RTH 5/3.

11. ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

12. SHIPPING.

10.2.37. Yoshida Maru (Japanese - Yamashita Line). Discharged 95 cases general goods and 35 bales piece goods.

10.2.37. Shokuyu Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 2000 paper bags of cement and 128 packages general goods.

13. AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound planes landed here on 7th and 14th February. The one due on 11th did not land.

Eastbound planes landed here on all due dates.

14. VISITORS.

(a) Air Vice-Marshall W.G.S.Mitchell, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.,etc., Air Officer Commanding, Iraq Command, accompanied by Mrs.Mitchell and Mrs.Carte arrived at the Agency on the 2nd February and returned to Iraq on the 4th.

(b) Mohammad Ali Zainal, a prominent pearl merchant, arrived here on 8th February from Riyadh where he had gone to visit His Majesty King Bin Saud. He left for Bombay by Imperial Airways on the 11th February.

(c) Messrs: R.Adrian-Vallance and J.Spoor, two British subjects, holding teaching appointments with the Iraq Government, arrived here on the 11th February in a private car, with the intention of proceeding overland in their car to Bahrain and thence to Muscat. They had no visas for Saudi Arabia nor did either of them know any Arabic. They returned to Iraq next morning.



15/-

15.OIL INTERESTS.

The Kuwait Oil Company struck an oil area while boring at Bahrah on the 3rd February.

The value and the pressure of oil there is not yet known and the information is regarded as confidential.

16.RELATIONS WITH IRAQ.

Reference paragraph 7 of 1937.

The Political Agent went to Safwan on the 31st January and in company with the British Inspector of Basra Police Fourth Area and the Iraqi Commandant of Police visited Rodha and other places in Kuwait territory where it is alleged Iraqi Police aggressions against Kuwaiti tribesmen had taken place.

In connection with this the Political Agent again went to Zubair and Basra on the 4th February, returning to Kuwait on the 7th.

A report on the result of the investigation has been submitted to the Hon'ble the Political Resident.

17.GERMAN ACTIVITIES.

(a) During the period of the Summary applications for visits to Kuwait were received from

(i) Dr.Kruckmann, German, teacher of German at the Baghdad Matriculation School,

(ii) Herr Herbert Lechner, German, a mathematics teacher in one of the Iraqi Government Schools in Baghdad,

(iii) Dr.Wilhelm Koenig, Austrian, an archaeological artist and restorer, employed by the Iraq museum, understood to be a German by race.

All these applicants wished to camp in Kuwait. (As the local authorities find camping for such Europeans impracticable and undesirable visas were not given by the Consul to whom they applied).

(b) There are at present only two Germans at Kuwait:

(i) Dr.R.Peters, Oculist, who is here on

- 3 -

on a single journey visa, from 12th December 1936 (see para 176(b) of 1936) and will be leaving in mid-March, and

(ii) Herr Kopp, who arrived on 22nd November and is employed in the Kuwait Electric Light Company supervising the German machine installed by Messrs: Suren, a Basra firm. Herr Kopp will also be leaving in March.

18. METEOROLOGICAL.

.02" of rain fell during the period under review.

Maximum temperature ... ... 70.F.

Minimum temperature ... ... 45.F.

[signature] Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Political Agency, Kuwait.

The 18th February 1937.

-----

Distribution: As usual.

-----

(5) 70 623 (627)

No. 1 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 31st January 1 9 3 7.

-----

(Note:- No separate Summary could be issued for the first half of January).

-----

1. Mr. Clauson
2. Mr. Symon
3. Copy of para. 9 to file.



**1.ROYAL NAVY.**

No visits.

**2.SHIPPING.**

5.1.37. - S.S.Salavati (Silver Java Pacific Line - Dutch). Discharged 8486 bags of soft sugar and 90 bags (Singapore) coffee.

11.1.37. - S.S.Marienfels (German - Hansa Line). Discharged 875 bags sugar and 27 cases general goods.

17.1.37. - Kurahim Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 4000 paper bags of cement and 393 packages general goods.

24.1.37. - S.S.Tosari (Silver Java Pacific Line - Dutch). Discharged 2166 bags of sugar and 70 bags of coffee.

**3.AVIATION.**

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound aeroplanes landed here on all due dates except the one due on 3rd January which flew over.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 10th, 13th, 13th, 20th, 25th and 27th January. The ones due on 3rd, 7th and 17th did not land.

**4.ARRIVALS.**

(a) Major Frank Holmes, a British Concessionaire and the Shaikh's representative on the Kuwait Oil Company's Board of Directors in London and Mrs. Holmes arrived on the 3rd January. Major Holmes left for Bahrain and the Trucial Coast by air on the 20th and Mrs. Holmes followed him by steamer on the 25th January.



(b)

No. 1 of 1937.

Kuwait Intelligence Summary

For the period from 1st to 31st January 1 9 3 7.

-----

(Note:- No separate Summary could be issued for the first half of January).

-----

1.ROYAL NAVY.

No visits.

2.SHIPPING.

5.1.37. - S.S.Salsvati (Silver Java Pacific Line - Dutch). Discharged 8486 bags of soft sugar and 90 bags (Singapore) coffee.

11.1.37. - S.S.Marienfels (German - Hansa Line). Discharged 875 bags sugar and 27 cases general goods.

17.1.37. - Kurahim Maru (Japanese - Mitsui Line). Discharged 4000 paper bags of cement and 393 packages general goods.

24.1.37. - S.S.Tosari (Silver Java Pacific Line - Dutch). Discharged 2166 bags of sugar and 70 bags of coffee.

3.AVIATION.

(a) Royal Air Force.

Nil.

(b) Imperial Airways.

Westbound aeroplanes landed here on all due dates except the one due on 3rd January which flew over.

Eastbound planes landed here on the 10th, 13th, 15th, 20th, 25th and 27th January. The ones due on 3rd, 7th and 17th did not land.

4.ARRIVALS.

(a) Major Frank Holmes, a British Concessionaire and the Shaikh's representative on the Kuwait Oil Company's Board of Directors in London and Mrs. Holmes arrived on the 3rd January. Major Holmes left for Bahrain and the Trucial Coast by air on the 20th and Mrs. Holmes followed him by steamer on the 25th January.

(b)

624
(628)

- 2 -

(b) Mr.Hugh Montgomery, a Secretary at the British Embassy, Baghdad, arrived here on the 10th and left on the 12th January.

(c) The Emir Nuri Ash Sha'alan, Shaikh of the RUWALA division of the Anaza tribe arrived in Kuwait on the 28th January from Syria via Iraq en route for Riyadh and Mecca for the pilgrimage.

Nuri is now a father-in-law of both King Abdul Aziz and the Emir Saud of Saudi Arabia.

5.THE RULER'S TOURS.

The Shaikh of Kuwait was away in North Saudi Arabia hawking bustard from the 12th January until the 18th January when he returned to Kuwait.

6.LOCAL INTERESTS.

(a) Shaikh Hilal al Mutairi has fixed a camp for hawking near RIQAI, on the junction of the Saudi Arab-Iraq-Kuwait frontier.

(b) Annual Pilgrimage.

The Hajj, the pilgrim caravan for Mecca, left its final rendezvous, which was this year fixed at Umm al Amara, on the 11th January. Some 400 persons left. The parties travelling by car have not yet set out.

7.RELATIONS WITH IRAQ.

On the 18th of January the Political Agent went to Safwan to meet the British Inspector of the

4th Area Iraq

with whom he was associated in the investigation of eight cases of Iraqi violation of Kuwait territorial rights. As no witnesses owing to the migratory season could be collected by that date the investigation was postponed till the 31st of January.

8. RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

H.M. the King is expected to leave his camp at Khafs, north of Riyadh, for Mecca on about the 11th of February.

9. RELATIONS WITH PALESTINE.

Reference para 187 of Summary No.19.

Auni Abdul Hadi and party returned through Kuwait on the 2nd January. Auni informed the Political Agent that he had, after seeing Ibn Saud, decided for and counted upon persuading the Supreme Moslem Council to make a statement of demands and give evidence before the Royal Commission if it were not too late. (He apparently said the same thing in Iraq on seeing H.M.King Ghazi and it was locally presumed that the journey (and consultation of the Monarchs) was for face-saving. Auni only spent two days in Ibn Saud's camp).

Members of the Ruling Family of Kuwait told the Political Agent that they are of the opinion, having spoken with Auni and now heard the Arab demands as broadcasted that far less will satisfy them.

The uncompromising request made by the Council is regarded as made only to ensure that they receive as much as possible, is merely "putting a high price on the goods" which 'price' they are quite prepared to lower.

10. METEOROLOGICAL.

.63" of rain fell during the period under review.

Maximum temperature ... 63.F.

Minimum/

- 3 -

with whom he was associated in the investigation of eight cases of Iraqi violation of Kuwait territorial rights. As no witnesses owing to the migratory season could be collected by that date the investigation was postponed till the 31st of January.

8.RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA.

H.M.the King is expected to leave his camp at Khafs, north of Riyadh, for Mecca on about the 11th of February.

9.RELATIONS WITH PALESTINE.

Reference para 187 of Summary No.19.

Auni Abdul Hadi and party returned through Kuwait on the 2nd January. Auni informed the Political Agent that he had, after seeing Ibn Saud, decided for and counted upon persuading the Supreme Moslem Council to make a statement of demands and give evidence before the Royal Commission if it were not too late. (He apparently said the same thing in Iraq on seeing H.M.King Ghazi and it was locally presumed that the journey (and consultation of the Monarchs) was for face-saving. Auni only spent two days in Ibn Saud's camp).

Members of the Ruling Family of Kuwait told the Political Agent that they are of the opinion, having spoken with Auni and now heard the Arab demands as broadcasted that far less will satisfy them.

The uncompromising request made by the Council is regarded as made only to ensure that they receive as much as possible, is merely "putting a high price on the goods" which 'price' they are quite prepared to lower.

10.METEOROLOGICAL.

.63" of rain fell during the period/ under review.

Maximum temperature ... 63.F.

Minimum\

Minimum temperature ... ... 39.F.

Captain,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

-----

Political Agency, Kuwait.

The 9th February 1937.

-----

DISTRIBUTION.

1. The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2. The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, N.Delhi.
3. His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4. His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5. The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6. The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O."3" W.General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7. The Chief Commissioner, Aden.
8. The Air Officer Commanding, Iraq Command, Baghdad.
9. The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10. The Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.
11. The Officer Commanding 203 (F.B.) Squadron, Basra.
12. The Political Agent, Muscat.
13. The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14. His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15. His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.

-----

Minimum temperature ... ... 39.F.

Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

-----

Political Agency, Kuwait.
The 9th February 1937.

-----

DISTRIBUTION.

1.The Secretary, Political Department, India Office, London.
2.The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, N.Delhi.
3.His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad.
4.His Majesty's Minister, Jedda.
5.The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.
6.The Senior General Staff Officer, M.O."3" W.General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Simla.
7.The Chief Commissioner, Aden.
8.The Air Officer Commanding, Iraq Command, Baghdad.
9.The Staff Officer, Naval Intelligence Centre, Colombo.
10.The Senior Naval Officer in the Persian Gulf.
11.The Officer Commanding 203 (F.B.) Squadron, Basra.
12.The Political Agent, Muscat.
13.The Political Agent, Bahrain.
14.His Majesty's Consul, Basra.
15.His Majesty's Vice-Consul, Khorramshahr.

-----

مجموعة ٣٠/ ٤٥ (٢) "يوميّات الخليج الفارسي: ملخصات استخبارات الكويت ١٩٣٧-" [خلفي-داخلي] (١٢٦٣/١٢٦٤)

